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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count data book examines statewide trends in the well-being of Minnesota children during the 1990s. The statistical portrait is based on 11 indicators of well-being: (1) child poverty rate; (2) percent of children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children; (3) percent receiving free or reduced-price school lunches; (4) teen birth rate; (5) percent born at low birthweight; (6) percent not immunized by age 2; (7) school dropout rate; (8) percent arrested for violent crime; (9) child abuse and neglect rates; (10) percent in out-of-home placements; and (11) child violent death rate. Following an introduction outlining the major findings and providing guidance on interpreting the tabular information, Section 1 of the data book presents state and regional findings for each indicator for this decade, briefly discusses trends in Minnesota, delineates racial differences for each indicator, and discusses prevention and treatment options. Section 2 contains statewide and county profiles, including trends in the 1990s, a brief description of each county, and a comparison of each county to the average. Findings indicate that there are several important areas where Minnesota children are not faring well: the percentage of children born at low birthweight is increasing, the percentage of low-income children has remained the same despite the 1990s economic boom, school dropout rates are unacceptably high, and the percentage of violent crimes committed by children continued to rise through 1995. The data book concludes with data notes and sources and a list of resources. (KB)

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Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look
1998 Data Book

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Minnesota KIDS COUNT releases periodic reports and an annual data book to provide a statistical profile of Minnesota's children and suggestions for action on their behalf. This data book was made possible through funds provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

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ERRATUM

The 1993-95 teen birth rate for the state is 22 per 1,000 births, not 31 per 1,000 as shown on regional and county tables. Teen birth rates for regions and counties are correct as shown.

INTRODUCTION

Despite rapid job growth, falling unemployment and rising average annual pay, many children in Minnesota are not faring well. In order for this economic boom to really penetrate into the lives of all Minnesota children and their families, we need to look closely at where we fall short and commit our state's full energy and resources to solving these problems.

This report brings together data about many aspects of child well-being in order to paint a picture of children in Minnesota. It contains indicators that are readily available for each county in the state, easily understood, and collected annually (with two exceptions). Of course, many Minnesota children are born healthy, succeed in school, and become happy and productive adults. This data book draws attention to the children who are less likely to succeed, who may need extra help and support along the way.

There are several important areas where children are not faring well: the percentage of children born at low birth weight is increasing; the percentage of low-income children has remained the same despite the economic boom of the 1990's; school dropout rates, especially for children of color, are unacceptably high; and the percentage of violent crime committed by children continued to rise through 1995.

Adults in Minnesota can take action to help children. Children should be a priority in community activities, legislative action, corporate and charitable giving, and in people's own neighborhoods and families.

Children in Poverty

About one in seven Minnesota children live below the poverty line, according to estimates done by the U.S. Census bureau in 1993 and in 1989. Poverty estimates in 1993 ranged from 7.3% in the surrounding metro counties, to almost 27% in northern Minnesota's Region 2. Regions 1, 2, 4 and 5 in northern Minnesota, four of the poorest areas of the state in 1989, all saw the largest decreases in child poverty estimates. Hennepin, Ramsey, the surrounding metro counties and the southeastern Regions 9 and 10 had increased estimates.

Children Receiving AFDC

The number and percentage of children receiving AFDC has fallen seven percent since 1994. Many regions outside of Hennepin and Ramsey counties have experienced larger decreases, ranging up to 24% in Region 3 in Northeastern Minnesota. The southwestern portion of the state saw an increase in children receiving assistance.

Children Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch

In the 1996-1997 school year, close to 27% of students came from low-income families as measured by the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Statewide, school lunch participation has not changed from 1991 to 1996. Close to 20% of students received free lunch, meaning their families were very low-income. The percent of students in the program varies greatly between regions, reflecting different rates of child poverty.

Children Born to Teen Mothers

The teen birth rate was 22 per every thousand 15-17 year olds in 1993-1995, the latest years available. In 1996, 2,019 births to mothers under 18 were recorded in Minnesota. This birth rate differed significantly across

INTRODUCTION, continued

the state. Hennepin and Ramsey counties had the highest rates, but Regions 2 and 5, in north central Minnesota, also had high rates of teen births.

Children Born at Low Birth Weight

The percentage of children born at low birth weight has increased over the past six years, rising to 5.8% in 1996. In line with national statistics, African-American children in Minnesota are twice as likely as other children to be born at low birth weight. Significant differences also occur between Minnesota regions.

Children Not Immunized by Age 2

For children entering kindergarten in 1996, 32% were not up to date on their vaccinations by age two. This was a small improvement over the last survey in 1992, when 39% were not up to date by age two. Many regions showed a much greater improvement.

Children Dropping Out of School

In the 1995-96 school year, an estimated 4% of the state's 7-12th grade students dropped out of school. The state drop out rate for students of color was 13.1% for the 1995 96 school year, or more than three times that of white students. **Over their entire high school careers, 9% of white, 17% of Asian, 39% of Hispanic, 44% of Black and 40% of Indian students were estimated to have dropped out of school.**

Children Arrested for Violent Crime

In 1995 and 1996, the percent of all violent crime committed by juveniles declined somewhat in Minnesota, from over 30% to 28.6%. However, this still represents a 27% increase over 1991 rates. Regions vary considerably in the percent of violent crimes committed by juveniles, from 10% in northwest Region 1, to almost 40% in Ramsey County and the surrounding metro counties. All regions saw an increase from 1991 to 1995.

Children Abused and Neglected

In 1996, 10,195 cases of abuse or neglect were substantiated, a slight decrease since 1991. However, reporting the number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect does not accurately reflect the true rate of child abuse and neglect in the state. About half of these substantiated reports were for neglect. Regions differed widely in their trends between 1991 and 1996.

Children in Out-Of-Home Placements

In 1996, 14 out of every 1,000 children were in out-of-home care for at least part of the year. This is a slight increase since 1991, but a decrease from 1993. Rates varied by region, ranging from relatively low rates in the southern part of the state, to rates of more than 20 per 1,000 in Regions 2 and 3 in northern Minnesota. African-American and American Indian children in Minnesota continue to be over-represented in the number of children in out-of-home placements.

Children Dying Violently

In 1996, 205 Minnesota children died violently. The largest cause of violent death in Minnesota are deaths related to motor vehicles. There is no clear trend over time in the number of violent, preventable child deaths in Minnesota. The number of homicides is up slightly in the last two years, but still comprise only 16% of violent deaths in 1996.

How to Read the Tables

① **Number of children.** It helps to know the actual number of children affected by a problem, as well as the percentage. Very small numbers in a category may fluctuate significantly from year to year, making interpretation difficult.

② **Percent of children** (compared to total population, total births, total school enrollment, etc.) Unless the number of children is very small, percentages provide useful comparisons across time.

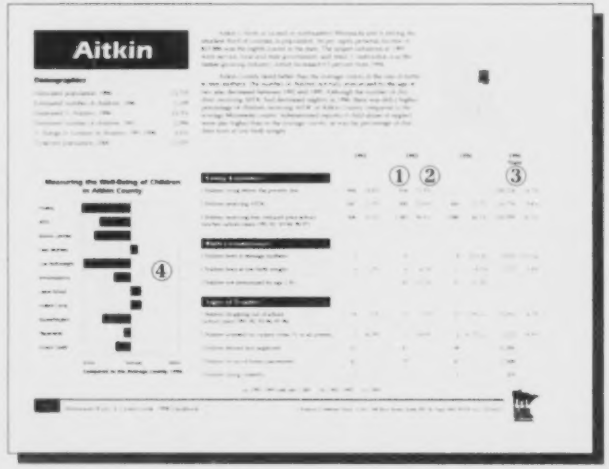
③ **State Average.** This number compares a county to the state as a whole.

④ **Bar Charts.** These charts allow comparisons of different indicators within a county. At a glance, a county can be compared to the "average county." (For more detail about the bar charts, please see the data notes at the end of the book.)

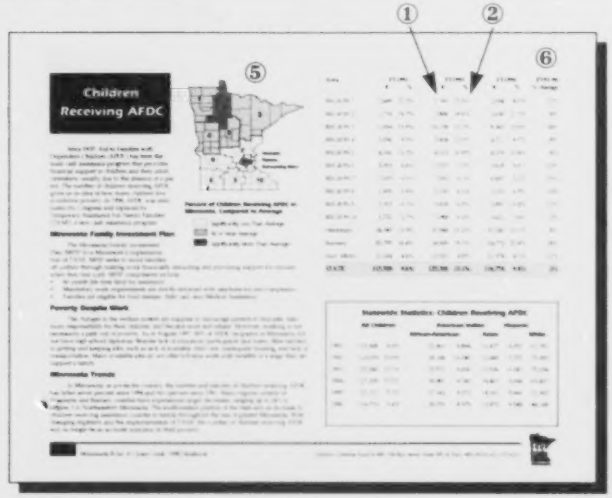
⑤ **Map.** The map ranks regions in thirds, allowing for regional comparisons. It can also help determine if a problem is concentrated in certain areas of the state.

⑥ **Percent Change.** This figure reveals trends over time (1991-1996). Small numbers in some regions can create relatively large percentage changes, however.

Sample County Page



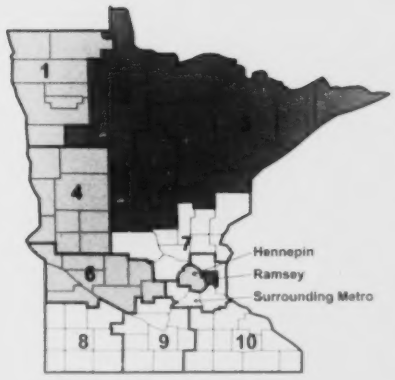
Sample Indicator Page



Family Economics

Children Living in Poverty

Poverty is closely linked with negative outcomes in children and affects all areas of their lives. It has a devastating impact on their physical, emotional, and mental well-being. Poverty places children at greater risk for hunger, homelessness, physical and mental disabilities, sickness, life-long disabilities, violence, nutritional deficiencies, stunted growth, and death. Poor children are also less likely to do well in school. They have lower test scores, more learning disabilities, more special education needs, and face a greater risk for dropping out.



Percent of Children Living in Poverty in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Nationwide:

- 20.5% of children under the age of 18 were poor in 1996.
- Children compose a larger percentage of people in poverty than any other age group.
- They represent 40% of people in poverty, although they are only 27% of the total population.
- The overall poverty rate for children under the age of six is 22.7%.
- Nationally, 42% of Black children and 40% of Hispanic children live in poverty.

Working Poor Families

The majority of poor adults are working. Fifty-two percent of all poor individuals ages 18-54 were employed for part or all of 1996. The income of the poorest fifth of American families dropped 1.5% while the incomes of the top five percent of American families rose 43% from 1979 to 1995. Full-time year-round work at $5.15 an hour equals only 83% of the poverty line for a three-person family. A single parent with one child would have to work about thirty hours a week at seven dollars an hour to reach an income slightly above the poverty level.

Federal Poverty Guidelines, 1997

Family Size	Monthly Income	Annual Income
1	$ 658	$7,890
2	$ 884	$10,610
3	$1,111	$13,330
4	$1,338	$16,050
5	$1,564	$18,770

Area	1989 #	1989 %	1993 #	1993 %	1991-93 % change
REGION 1	5,205	20.0%	4,483	17.1%	-14.3%
REGION 2	6,147	31.4%	5,688	26.6%	-15.3%
REGION 3	15,410	19.4%	15,806	19.4%	-0.3%
REGION 4	10,698	20.2%	10,064	18.2%	-9.7%
REGION 5	9,802	25.4%	8,694	21.1%	-17.0%
REGION 6	7,293	16.0%	7,112	15.2%	-4.8%
REGION 7	13,621	12.2%	14,758	11.8%	-3.0%
REGION 8	5,374	15.8%	4,900	14.2%	-10.1%
REGION 9	7,392	12.7%	7,748	13.0%	2.5%
REGION 10	12,060	10.4%	13,469	11.1%	6.7%
Hennepin	36,924	15.3%	46,466	18.5%	20.9%
Ramsey	21,392	17.6%	26,055	20.9%	18.8%
Surr. Metro	14,214	6.0%	19,981	7.3%	21.3%
STATE	165,531	14.0%	185,224	14.7%	5.0%

Statewide Statistics: Children in Poverty (Census Bureau Estimates)

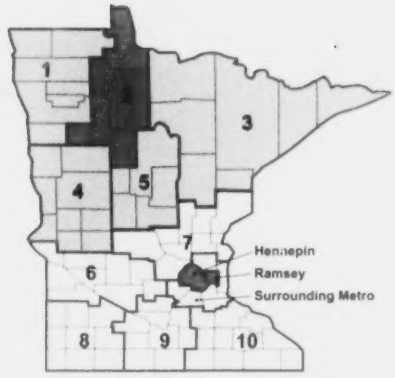
	Number of Children	% in Poverty
1989	165,531	14.0%
1993	185,224	14.7%

Minnesota Trends

According to estimates done by the U.S. Census Bureau, child poverty in Minnesota was about the same in 1993 as in 1989. About one in seven Minnesota children lived below the poverty line in those years. This rate varies greatly between different areas in the state. Poverty estimates in 1993 ranged from 7.3% in the surrounding metro counties, to almost 27% in northern Minnesota's Region 2. However, Regions 1, 2, 4 and 5, four of the poorest areas of the state in 1989, all saw the largest decreases in child poverty estimates by 1993. Hennepin, Ramsey, the surrounding metro counties and the southeastern Regions 9 and 10 all saw increases in child poverty estimates from 1989 to 1993.

Children Receiving AFDC

Since 1935, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) has been the main cash assistance program that provides financial support to children and their adult caretakers, usually due to the absence of a parent. The number of children receiving AFDC gives us an idea of how many children live in extreme poverty. In 1996, AFDC was eliminated by Congress and replaced by Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF), a new cash assistance program.



Percent of Children Receiving AFDC in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Minnesota Family Investment Plan

The Minnesota Family Investment Plan (MFIP-S) is Minnesota's implementation of TANF. MFIP seeks to move families off welfare through making work financially rewarding and providing support for families when they find a job. MFIP components include:

- 60 month life-time limit for assistance.
- Mandatory work requirements are strictly enforced with sanctions for non-compliance.
- Families are eligible for food stamps, child care, and Medical Assistance.

Poverty Despite Work

The changes in the welfare system are suppose to encourage parents to find jobs, take more responsibility for their children, and become more self-reliant. However, working is not necessarily a path out of poverty. As of August 1997, 50% of AFDC recipients in Minnesota did not have high school diplomas. Besides lack of education, participants face many other barriers in getting and keeping jobs, such as lack of available child care, inadequate housing, and lack of transportation. Many available jobs do not offer full-time work with benefits or a wage that can support a family.

Minnesota Trends

In Minnesota, as across the country, the number and percent of children receiving AFDC has fallen seven percent since 1994 and two percent since 1991. Many regions outside of Hennepin and Ramsey counties have experienced larger decreases, ranging up to 24% in Region 3 in Northeastern Minnesota. The southwestern portion of the state saw an increase in children receiving assistance, counter to trends throughout the rest of greater Minnesota. With changing eligibility and the implementation of TANF, the number of children receiving AFDC will no longer be an accurate indicator of child poverty.

Area	FY1991 #	FY1991 %	FY1993 #	FY1993 %	FY1996 #	FY1996 %	FY91-96 % change
REGION 1	2,689	10.2%	2,765	10.5%	2,054	8.1%	-21%
REGION 2	3,718	18.7%	3,806	18.6%	3,638	17.1%	-8%
REGION 3	11,054	13.9%	10,138	12.7%	8,365	10.6%	-24%
REGION 4	5,050	9.5%	5,434	10.1%	4,711	8.7%	-8%
REGION 5	4,316	11.2%	4,313	10.9%	4,219	10.4%	-8%
REGION 6	3,053	6.6%	3,515	7.5%	2,618	5.8%	-12%
REGION 7	7,033	6.1%	7,292	6.1%	6,607	5.2%	-15%
REGION 8	1,935	5.6%	2,120	6.1%	2,125	6.5%	15%
REGION 9	3,553	6.1%	3,818	6.5%	3,897	6.8%	11%
REGION 10	6,722	5.7%	7,088	6.0%	6,621	5.6%	-2%
Hennepin	34,349	13.9%	37,948	15.2%	37,243	15.1%	8%
Ramsey	20,795	16.4%	24,509	19.1%	24,774	20.4%	24%
Surr. Metro	11,244	4.6%	12,521	4.8%	11,374	4.1%	-11%
STATE	115,508	9.6%	125,260	10.1%	116,774	9.4%	-2%

Statewide Statistics: Children Receiving AFDC

	All Children		American Indian	African-American	Asian	Hispanic	White
1991	115,508	9.6%	22,065	9,894	11,477	4,291	67,781
1992	123,019	10.0%	24,788	10,240	12,649	5,337	70,005
1993	125,260	10.1%	25,971	9,656	13,556	6,043	70,034
1994	127,329	10.1%	28,082	9,745	14,401	9,694	65,407
1995	121,517	9.7%	27,142	9,272	14,141	9,660	61,302
1996	116,774	9.4%	28,076	8,978	13,972	9,548	46,168

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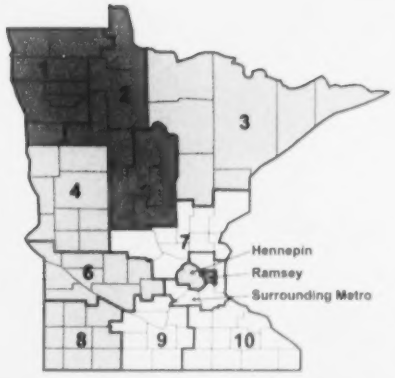
Children Receiving Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch



Percent of Children Receiving Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Free or reduced-price school lunches are available to children with family incomes below 185% of the federal poverty level. Children with family incomes below 130% of poverty receive free meals. Children with family incomes between 130% and 185% of poverty pay a reduced price for their meals at school. Because most eligible students participate, the number of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunches can indicate the number of low-income school-age children in a county.

The benefits of school lunches are numerous. School lunches provide 1/3 to 1/2 of the recommended daily allowances for key nutrients and are the main nutritional food source of the day for many low-income children. Many scientific studies have documented the benefits of school lunches. Children who eat school meals perform better on standardized achievement tests and are late and absent from school less often than children who do not participate in the programs. Good nutrition positively correlates with the development and learning of children, making it an essential component of the education of children.

Children Are Still Hungry

Nationally, 11.9% of households are considered "food insecure," meaning they have limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate food. A U.S. Department of Agriculture spokesperson stated that the federal agency is hearing anecdotal evidence of food demand increases through it's state and regional offices since federal food stamp cuts took effect in 1997. These cuts make school lunches and breakfasts even more critical to children.

Minnesota Trends

Statewide, school lunch participation has been quite stable from 1991 to 1996. In the 1996-1997 school year, 229,059, or close to 27% of students came from low-income families. Close to 20% of students received free lunch, meaning their families were very low-income. The percent of students in the program varies greatly between regions, ranging from less than 15% in the surrounding metro counties, to almost 50% in Region 2, reflecting different rates of child poverty. Region 2, in North Central Minnesota, as well as the surrounding metro counties and Ramsey County, all have significant increases since 1991.

Area	1991-1992 #	1991-1992 %	1993-1994 #	1993-1994 %	1996-1997 #	1996-1997 %	1991-1996 % change
REGION 1	6,778	36.1%	6,969	37.1%	6,581	35.2%	-3%
REGION 2	6,264	41.6%	7,309	46.6%	7,646	47.8%	15%
REGION 3	16,211	30.0%	17,038	30.6%	16,105	29.0%	-3%
REGION 4	11,444	31.3%	12,281	32.9%	11,638	30.6%	-2%
REGION 5	12,292	43.0%	12,782	43.1%	13,511	43.3%	1%
REGION 6	9,291	29.4%	10,174	30.5%	9,486	29.3%	0%
REGION 7	19,339	24.3%	20,878	24.7%	20,954	23.5%	-3%
REGION 8	7,036	29.2%	7,711	31.2%	7,698	30.9%	6%
REGION 9	9,768	24.6%	11,220	26.7%	11,155	26.1%	6%
REGION 10	16,216	20.7%	17,100	21.7%	18,034	22.4%	8%
Hennepin	36,828	27.0%	48,220	33.4%	43,778	28.2%	5%
Ramsey	26,707	35.7%	28,421	35.3%	35,467	40.3%	13%
Surr. Metro	20,233	12.9%	24,577	14.5%	27,006	14.5%	12%
STATE	198,407	25.6%	224,860	27.6%	229,059	26.7%	4%

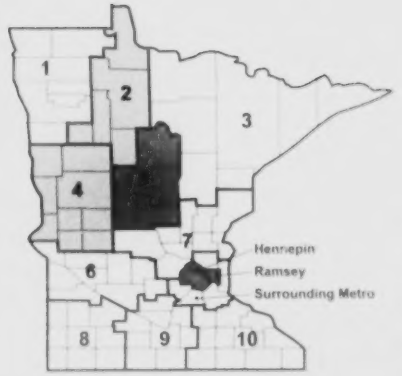
Statewide Statistics: Number and Percent of Students Approved for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch

	Free or Reduced-Price		Free	
1991-92	198,407	25.6%	147,797	19.1%
1992-93	206,381	26.0%	154,422	19.5%
1993-94	224,860	27.6%	168,580	20.7%
1994-95	222,431	27.0%	166,412	20.0%
1995-96	223,891	27.0%	166,897	20.0%
1996-97	229,059	26.7%	170,481	19.8%

Birth Circumstances & Health

Children Born to Teenage Mothers

Early childbirth has a lasting impact on the lives and future opportunities of both young mothers and their children. Young mothers are more likely to not complete high school, raise their children alone, and be poorer than mothers who are older. Children born to teenage mothers also have increased health, academic, and social problems. Most young fathers are ill-equipped to take on the responsibilities of fathering due to lack of education and job skills, which leads to low wages. A child born to an unmarried, teenage, high school dropout is ten times more likely to live in poverty than other children.



Teen Birth Rate in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Prevention Programs

Prevention programs focused on both young women and young men are the most important strategy to reduce the occurrences of teenage pregnancy. Research studies have found that school-based programs are the most effective because all youth are enrolled in school at some point before they engage in sex. Prevention programs include educating young people about sexuality, family planning, and contraception; making contraception and medical services available and accessible to young people; providing teenagers at risk of becoming parents with alternative life options to parenting; and instilling a hope for a productive future.

Help for Teen Parents

Programs that reduce the undesirable outcomes for teenage parents and their children are essential as well. Comprehensive services work best; recent research and evaluation of school-based programs for pregnant and parenting teens has shown that they are effective in providing quality education programs, preparing the teens to be self-sufficient adults, and promoting healthy development and school readiness for their children.

Minnesota Trends

In 1996, 2,019 births to mothers under 18 were recorded in Minnesota. The teen birth rate (or number of 15- to 17-year-old teenagers who gave birth out of every thousand teens) was 22 in 1993-1995, the latest years available. This birth rate differed significantly across the state. Hennepin and Ramsey Counties had the highest rates, but Regions 2 and 5, in north central Minnesota, also had high rates of teen births. The surrounding metro area and the southwestern area of Minnesota had the lowest rates of teen births.

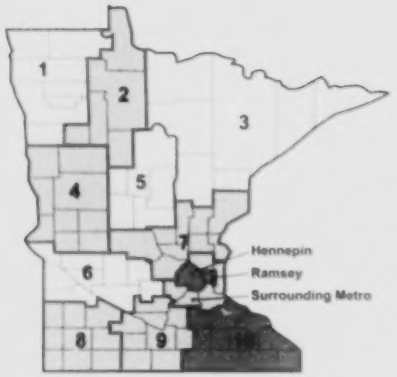
Area	1991 #	1993 #	1996 #	1993-1995 rate
REGION 1	27	29	37	16.9
REGION 2	35	36	47	23.5
REGION 3	110	125	111	16.9
REGION 4	68	82	73	17.7
REGION 5	63	70	55	24.7
REGION 6	48	63	60	16.8
REGION 7	118	137	168	16.1
REGION 8	27	46	46	14.6
REGION 9	65	73	85	16.2
REGION 10	154	149	127	16.8
Hennepin	557	558	534	31.5
Ramsey	320	350	372	38.4
Surrounding Metro	248	240	304	14.1
STATE	1840	1958	2,019	31.0

Statewide Statistics: Children Born to Teenage Mothers

	All Children	African-American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White
1991	1,840	322	132	164	103	1,119
1992	1,911	389	122	105	121	1,174
1993	1,958	357	137	139	143	1,182
1994	1,999	361	157	108	139	1,234
1995	2,033	369	128	154	147	1,235
1996	2,017	325	106	174	192	1,180

Children Born at Low Birthweight

Low birthweight is the major cause of infant illness and death in the United States. This term describes infants born weighing less than 2500 grams or 5.5 pounds, including those born prematurely (before 37 weeks). As a group, these infants have higher rates of health problems than other children. By school age, children born at low birthweight are more likely to have mild learning disabilities, attention disorders, developmental impairments, and breathing problems.



Percent of Children Born at Low Birth Weight in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Risk Factors for Low Birthweight

The three major risk factors for low birthweight are cigarette smoking during pregnancy, low maternal weight gain, and low pre-pregnancy weight. Other risks include maternal health, fetal infection, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, genetic make-up, and other health problems. African American infants are twice as likely as infants of nearly all other racial/ethnic groups in America to be born at low birthweight. There is some evidence which indicates that higher rates of poverty and other environmental factors may not be the only determining factors for these differences.

Effective Prenatal Services

In the past, researchers focused on prenatal care as a preventive solution, although recent evidence indicates that traditional prenatal care services may not actually provide significant benefits for low birthweight babies. For prenatal services to be effective in reducing chances of low birthweight, women at risk need to be identified early. The three most effective prenatal intervention efforts are aimed at smoking, nutrition, and medical care.

Minnesota Trends

The percent of children born at low birthweight has increased slightly over the past six years, rising to 5.8% in 1996. In line with national statistics, African-American children in Minnesota are twice as likely as other children to be born at low birthweight. Significant differences also occur between Minnesota regions. Hennepin and Ramsey Counties have the highest percentages of low birthweights, with rates under 5% in several rural regions.

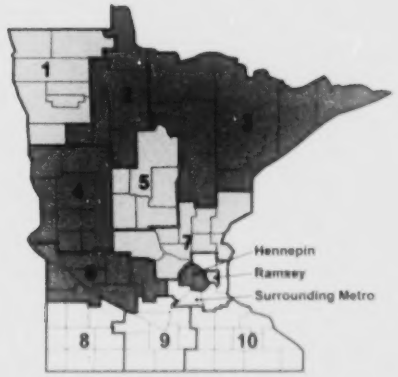
Area	1991 #	1991 %	1993 #	1993 %	1996 #	1996 %	1991-96 % change
REGION 1	58	4.9%	39	3.5%	56	4.9%	-0.7%
REGION 2	42	4.0%	56	6.0%	48	5.1%	28.5%
REGION 3	165	4.7%	169	5.0%	142	4.5%	-3.1%
REGION 4	119	4.8%	116	5.0%	119	5.2%	8.2%
REGION 5	87	4.7%	94	5.3%	88	5.0%	7.3%
REGION 6	59	2.8%	75	3.7%	83	4.3%	49.5%
REGION 7	276	4.9%	278	5.0%	319	5.4%	10.2%
REGION 8	44	2.8%	73	4.7%	79	5.4%	94.7%
REGION 9	137	5.0%	107	4.1%	134	5.3%	6.6%
REGION 10	277	4.5%	314	5.5%	319	5.9%	29.7%
Hennepin	967	5.8%	911	5.8%	1,045	6.8%	17.9%
Ramsey	485	5.9%	428	5.5%	487	6.6%	13.4%
Surrounding Metro	623	4.5%	660	4.7%	796	5.5%	21.7%
STATE	3,339	5.0%	3,320	5.1%	3,715	5.8%	17.1%

Statewide Statistics: Children Born With Low Birth Weight (Less Than 2500 grams)*

	All Children	African-American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White
1991	3,339 5.0%	406 12.2%	93 5.7%	138 5.7%	79 6.2%	2,692 4.5%
1992	3,211 4.9%	366 10.4%	88 6.0%	131 5.4%	73 5.2%	2,618 4.0%
1993	3,320 5.1%	348 9.9%	100 7.2%	174 6.8%	85 5.4%	2,675 4.1%
1994	3,646 5.7%	429 11.5%	94 6.6%	192 6.9%	107 6.4%	2,893 5.2%
1995	3,709 6.0%	405 11.2%	105 7.9%	181 6.4%	129 6.7%	2,960 5.4%
1996	3,715 5.8%	365 12.0%	63 5.9%	175 6.6%	138 6.0%	2,936 5.4%

Children Not Immunized by Age 2

Immunizations against preventable diseases such as measles, mumps, polio and whooping cough (pertussis) are one of the most important preventive health measures available. Except for clean water, no other intervention has had such a major influence on reducing child deaths and serious illness. Besides protecting children from unnecessary diseases that may have serious consequences, vaccines also offer a cost savings. Every dollar invested in an immunization program saves ten dollars in medical costs to treat disease and illness.



Percent of Children Not Immunized by Age 2 in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Preventable Diseases Decrease

Nationally, immunization rates have been rising after a measles epidemic in 1989-1991. By 1996, rates of many preventable diseases among children under 5 were at all-time low rates. Nationally, in 1995, about 75% of two-year-olds were fully immunized.

In the 1992-93 school year, and again in 1995-96, the Minnesota Department of Health conducted a survey of all kindergartners to find out how many of them were immunized and at what age. All students are required to be immunized to enter kindergarten, but the basic set of immunizations should be completed by the time a child is 24 months old. While children often get their very first immunizations (90% of Minnesota children had their shots at four months), children often fall behind during their toddler years. Because immunization schedules are complex, it is important for clinics to remind patients of immunizations regularly, and to check childrens' immunization history at every visit.

Minnesota Trends

For children entering kindergarten in 1995, 32% were not up-to-date on their vaccinations by age two. This was a small improvement over the last survey in 1992, when 39% were not up-to-date by age two. Much of the improvement was probably the result of heightened awareness from the 1990 measles outbreak in Minnesota. Many regions showed a much greater improvement. Region 9 in south central Minnesota posted a 50% improvement in the number of un-immunized children. Regions 3 and 6 had the highest rates of un-immunized children and had increases in the number of un-immunized children from the 1992 to the 1995 surveys.

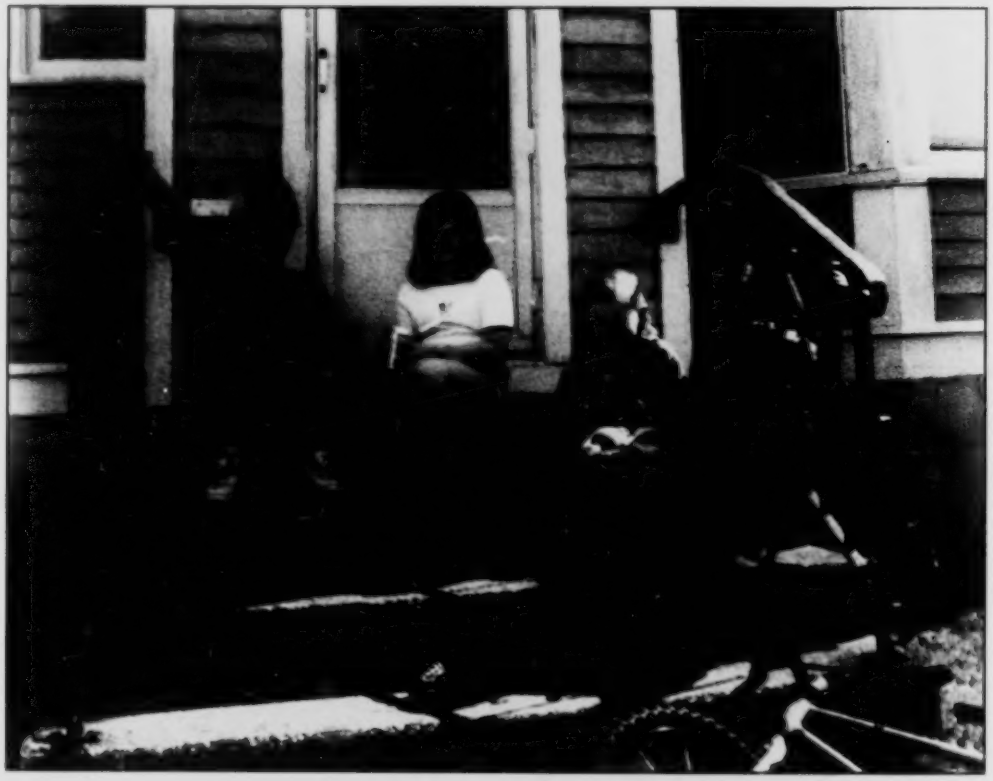
Area	1992-1993 #	1992-1993 %	1995-1996 #	1995-1996 %	% change
REGION 1	651	42.0%	479	32.0%	-23.7%
REGION 2	455	46.7%	430	37.0%	-20.7%
REGION 3	1,596	38.4%	1,303	41.7%	8.4%
REGION 4	1,234	45.8%	1,004	37.0%	-19.2%
REGION 5	921	40.9%	748	33.5%	-18.0%
REGION 6	946	37.0%	737	42.4%	14.4%
REGION 7	2,515	38.4%	2,110	35.4%	-7.9%
REGION 8	709	37.6%	519	28.4%	-24.5%
REGION 9	936	31.2%	794	14.8%	-52.5%
REGION 10	2,201	33.8%	1,656	26.7%	-21.1%
Hennepin	5,969	42.1%	5,572	37.0%	-12.1%
Ramsey	3,805	46.3%	2,789	34.9%	-24.7%
Surrounding Metro	5,257	36.0%	3,938	26.5%	-26.4%
STATE	27,172	39.3%	22,023	32.2%	-18.5%

Statewide Statistics: Children Not Immunized by Age 2

	All Children	African-American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White
1992-93	27,193 (39.3%)	1,914 (61.8%)	568 (47.8%)	1,469 (65.0%)	606 (56.9%)	18,040 (37.2%)
1995-96*	22,023 (32.0%)	1,547 (62.2%)	597 (52.4%)	2,962 (69.8%)	1,381 (66.8%)	21,970 (41.7%)

* Racial/ethnic breakout for 1995-96 is for full immunization at 20 months

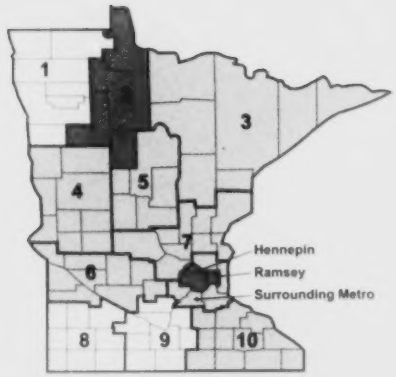
Signs of Trouble



Children Dropping Out of School

Dropping out of school is associated with many negative factors that can affect a child's future. Children who drop out of school are three times as likely to slip into poverty in adulthood than those who finish school. Dropping out of school is more prevalent among students from lower socioeconomic classes, students in urban environments, students of color, and students with disabilities.

It is imperative to look beyond the personal and family factors that contribute to the likelihood of dropping out. Higher rates of dropouts occur in schools that do not have "early warning" mechanisms in place, are perceived as being too dangerous, do not have in-school disciplinary suspensions, and where students feel teachers don't care about them.



Percent of Children Dropping Out of School in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Area	1991-92 #	1991-92 %	1993-94 #	1993-94 %	1995-96 #	1995-96 %	1991-95 % change
REGION 1	115	1.3%	146	1.6%	131	1.4%	7.0%
REGION 2	149	2.4%	167	2.4%	340	4.6%	96.7%
REGION 3	994	3.7%	811	3.0%	875	3.2%	-15.0%
REGION 4	251	1.6%	342	2.0%	534	2.9%	84.2%
REGION 5	374	2.9%	438	3.1%	552	3.8%	31.6%
REGION 6	319	2.2%	352	2.3%	533	3.3%	50.6%
REGION 7	749	2.2%	809	2.1%	1,204	2.9%	36.3%
REGION 8	144	1.3%	127	1.2%	207	1.8%	34.4%
REGION 9	286	1.7%	332	1.8%	396	2.0%	17.3%
REGION 10	836	2.5%	816	2.3%	1,015	2.8%	10.1%
Hennepin	3,364	6.0%	3,554	5.9%	4,749	7.5%	24.2%
Ramsey	1,844	6.4%	2,376	7.4%	2,580	7.5%	16.4%
Surr. Metro	2,066	3.1%	2,117	2.8%	2,585	3.2%	5.6%
STATE	11,491	3.5%	12,387	3.4%	15,701	4.1%	18.3%

Reasons for Dropping Out

Research indicates that there is a high correlation between truancy and dropout rates:

- Studies on truancy rates show that children at risk of dropping out can be detected as early as third grade.
- During 1992, Minneapolis students who dropped out of school attended an average of 46 fewer days than students who stayed in school.
- 10th grade truant students are likely to have reading and math competencies below the 7th grade level, and are likely to have learning disabilities.

Minnesota Trends

The Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning was not able to provide drop-out statistics for the 1996-1997 school year as of March 1998. In the 1995-96 school year, an estimated 4% of the state's 7-12th grade students dropped out of school. The state drop out rate for students of color was 13.1% for the 1995-96 school year, or more than three times that of white students. This rate increased 21% from 1993-94 to 1995-96, compared to a 14% increase for white students during that time. The Department did a "completion study" of the class of 1996 to try to estimate how many students dropped out between their ninth grade and twelfth grade years. Nine percent of white, 17% of Asian, 39% of Hispanic, 44% of Black and 40% of Indian students were estimated to have dropped out of school.

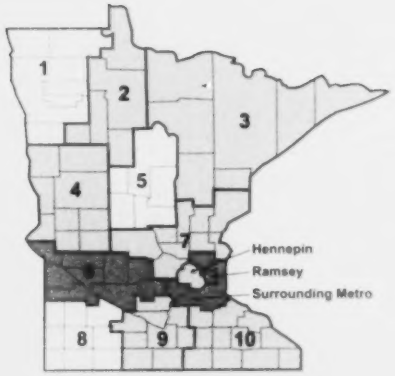
Children Dropping Out of School

	All Children		African-American		American Indian		Asian		Hispanic		White
1991-92	11,491	3.5%	1,467	14.0%	669	13.0%	456	4.5%	496	11.3%	8,403
1992-93	13,640	3.9%	1,870	16.0%	844	15.6%	691	6.6%	627	12.5%	9,608
1993-94	12,387	3.4%	1,812	14.0%	787	13.0%	612	5.4%	681	12.3%	8,495
1994-95	12,930	3.5%	1,963	14.1%	920	14.6%	618	5.0%	675	11.1%	8,754
1995-96	15,701	4.0%	2,766	18.2%	1,049	15.9%	806	6.0%	836	12.5%	10,244

Children Arrested for Violent Crime

Juvenile violent crime is associated with many other risk factors for children including poverty, learning disabilities, substance abuse, physical abuse and neglect, family dysfunction, low-income neighborhoods, cognitive deficiencies, and perinatal risks.

Although juvenile court systems have traditionally focused on treatment and rehabilitation, tougher policies are a growing trend in courts that deal with juvenile offenders, especially violent ones. Recent federal legislation reflects the growing trend to impose harsh sanctions on children who commit crime, allowing little room for prevention and rehabilitation before it's too late.



Percent of Children Arrested for Violent Crime in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Area	1991 #	1991 %	1993 #	1993 %	1995 #	1995 %	1991-95 % change
REGION 1	3	5.3%	16	16.8%	7	10.3%	95.6%
REGION 2	12	20.0%	16	14.0%	21	26.6%	32.9%
REGION 3	65	24.1%	110	32.1%	105	27.1%	12.7%
REGION 4	30	19.6%	26	14.1%	41	26.5%	34.9%
REGION 5	11	11.3%	13	8.8%	21	17.1%	50.6%
REGION 6	30	23.4%	37	27.4%	50	29.9%	27.7%
REGION 7	52	16.0%	90	26.3%	90	23.3%	45.3%
REGION 8	6	7.7%	26	29.2%	11	15.3%	98.6%
REGION 9	13	10.3%	27	20.6%	35	22.7%	120.3%
REGION 10	41	17.4%	87	23.5%	109	25.5%	46.6%
Hennepin	569	24.2%	640	22.9%	771	27.1%	11.9%
Ramsey	325	26.5%	394	31.6%	523	38.8%	46.7%
Surrounding Metro	225	30.7%	285	34.3%	339	38.2%	24.5%
STATE	1,382	23.6%	1,767	25.9%	2,123	29.9%	26.7%

Treating Children as Adult Offenders

This "get tough" rhetoric is ineffective for several reasons:

- Children tried as adults re-offend sooner, commit more serious new offenses, and re-offend more often than children tried as juveniles and placed in juvenile facilities.
- Children in adult jails are at a greater risk for assault and abuse from staff and other inmates, and have a higher suicide rate.
- Children in adult jails do not receive the services that are critical in rehabilitating them.

Long-term evaluations of promising prevention programs is necessary to determine which interventions will be the most successful. Unless successful preventative and rehabilitative programs are proven, policy initiatives will focus on punishment and retribution.

Minnesota Trends

In 1995 and 1996, the percent of all violent crime committed by juveniles declined somewhat in Minnesota, from over 30% to 28.6%. However, this still represents a 27% increase over 1991 rates. Data for Minnesota counties is only available through 1995. Regions vary considerably in the percent of violent crimes committed by juveniles, from 10% in northwest Region 1, to almost 40% in Ramsey County and the surrounding metro counties. All regions saw an increase from 1991 to 1995, although the large percentage increases in some regions should be balanced against the relatively small number of crimes. African American and American Indian youth comprise a lower percentage of violent crimes in those racial groups than do white children. However, over 40% of violent crime committed by Asians is committed by Asians under 18.

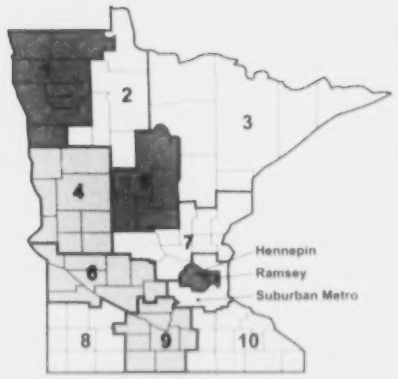
Statewide Statistics: Children Arrested For Violent Crimes*

(murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault)

	All Children #	All Children %	African-American #	African-American %	American Indian #	American Indian %	Asian #	Asian %	White #	White %
1991	1,382	23.6%	512	24.2%	98	22.6%	35	41.7%	738	22.9%
1992	1,662	26.4%	574	26.0%	90	21.8%	50	39.1%	943	27.3%
1993	1,767	25.9%	603	24.5%	103	22.1%	78	40.8%	983	26.6%
1994	2,225	31.0%	785	28.9%	121	23.6%	101	42.6%	1,219	32.7%
1995	2,123	29.9%	774	28.6%	117	23.3%	116	49.5%	1,115	30.2%
1996	2,026	28.6%	643	24.1%	131	24.9%	102	42.1%	1,150	31.6%

* As a percent of all arrests for violent crimes

Children Abused and Neglected



Percent of Children Abused and Neglected in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Child abuse and neglect often results in physical, intellectual, behavioral, and emotional problems. In addition to the immediate and short-term harm of child abuse, there are long-term ramifications as well. Young abused children are more likely to be socially withdrawn, physically aggressive, and to have learning problems. As adolescents, they are more likely to be involved in crime, become pregnant, perform poorly at school, use drugs and alcohol, or attempt suicide.

According to a 1992 U.S. Department of Justice report, 68% of the youths arrested had prior history of abuse and neglect. The study also found that girls who were abused or neglected in childhood were worse off; they were 77 percent more likely to be arrested as juveniles. Youths who were abused or neglected in childhood are also more likely to be the most chronic and serious of the juvenile offenders. A 1995 study conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health found that many homeless people, especially women, reported serious family problems or a history of sexual or physical abuse as children.

Area	1991 #	1991 rate/1000	1993 #	1993 rate/1000	1996 #	1996 rate/1000	1991-96 % change
REGION 1	197	7.5	220	8.4	277	10.5	41%
REGION 2	198	9.9	211	10.3	139	6.7	-33%
REGION 3	642	8.1	607	7.6	540	6.8	-16%
REGION 4	541	10.1	501	9.3	478	8.8	-13%
REGION 5	473	12.3	459	11.6	366	9.1	-26%
REGION 6	336	7.3	400	8.6	386	8.2	13%
REGION 7	520	4.5	468	3.9	639	5.2	15%
REGION 8	233	6.5	338	9.4	249	6.5	1%
REGION 9	711	10.3	688	9.9	494	7.1	-31%
REGION 10	691	5.9	786	6.6	809	6.8	15%
Hennepin	3,048	12.4	3,545	14.2	2,919	11.5	-7%
Ramsey	1,233	9.7	1,350	10.5	1,445	11.2	15%
Surr. Metro	1,401	5.7	1,491	5.7	1,459	5.4	-5%
STATE	10,224	8.5	11,064	8.9	10,200	8.1	-4%

Prevention Is Essential

Within the past few years there have been initiatives at all levels to help communities become more responsible for child protection. At the federal level, final regulation adapted to the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program emphasizes the importance of community-based child and family services. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act was also reauthorized in 1996 to include a new demonstration grant program to promote innovative partnerships between public and private sectors. Community-based, family-centered, comprehensive services to protect children and support families are being advanced with the help of foundations, local community leaders, families, and public and private agencies.

Minnesota Trends

In Minnesota, the only available data about child abuse and neglect comes from recording cases which are reported and investigated by one of the state's 87 counties. Reporting the number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect does not accurately reflect the true rate of child abuse and neglect in the state. In 1996, 10,195 cases of abuse or neglect were substantiated, a slight decrease since 1991. This represents 40% of all reports of child abuse or neglect. About half of these substantiated reports were for neglect. Regions differed widely in their trends between 1991 and 1996.

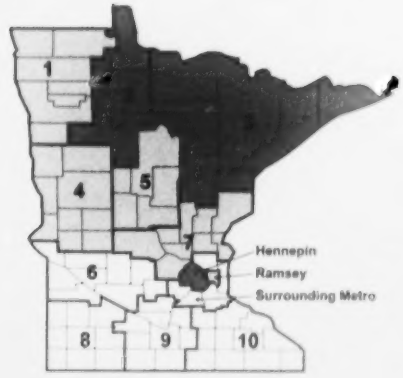
Statewide Statistics: Children Abused and Neglected
(reports substantiated by county agencies)

	All Children	African-American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White
1991	10,224	1,768	909	217	424	6,876
1992	11,217	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1993	11,058	2,273	870	195	478	7,090
1994	10,434	2,393	866	206	598	6,360
1995	10,273	2,175	846	185	663	6,268
1996	10,195	2,349	757	248	630	6,158

Children in Out-of-Home Placements

Out-of-home care affects only a small proportion of troubled families. Many instances of child abuse or neglect go unreported. Some situations are reported and resolved without children needing to leave their families. Many children live with relatives or family friends without the involvement of the formal child welfare system.

In 1996, 21% of reasons given for children entering into care were for protection. Another 24% entered because of a parent's substance abuse, illness or disability, incarceration or other condition. Forty-three percent entered because of a child-related conduct or condition such as delinquency, substance abuse or disability.



Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Placements in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average

Improving the Out-of-Home Placement System

Advocates have made the following suggestions for improving the system in Minnesota.

- Funding for out-of-home care should be stabilized by the state increasing its investment on a targeted basis, and by decreasing reliance on local property taxes.
- The emphasis of the child welfare system must be shifted to early prevention activities. Spending for prevention and early intervention should at least equal spending on out-of-home care and adoption.
- The state and counties must undertake aggressive implementation and evaluation of current best practices, paying special attention to the youngest children in the system.
- Data about out-of-home care and the entire child welfare system must be structured to provide the maximum information about outcomes for children and families.

Minnesota Trends

In 1996, 14 out of every 1,000 children were in out-of-home care for at least part of the year. This is a slight increase since 1991, but a decrease from 1993. Rates varied by region, ranging from relatively low rates in the southern part of the state, to rates of more than 20 per 1,000 in Regions 2 and 3 in northern Minnesota. Some regions saw significant increases in out-of-home placement, some remained relatively stable, and three decreased. Since the child welfare system is county administered, wide variations between counties are likely, due both to different circumstances in counties but also variations in policies and practices. African-American and American Indian children in Minnesota continue to be over-represented in the number of children in out-of-home placements.

Area	1991 #	1991 rate/1000	1993 #	1993 rate/1000	1996 #	1996 rate/1000	1991-96 % change
REGION 1	248	9.4	253	9.6	289	11.0	16.5%
REGION 2	394	19.8	418	20.5	423	20.3	2.8%
REGION 3	1,899	23.9	2,074	26.0	1,864	23.3	-2.4%
REGION 4	650	12.2	669	12.4	698	12.8	5.4%
REGION 5	544	14.1	603	15.3	629	15.7	11.3%
REGION 6	416	9.0	469	10.1	411	8.8	-2.5%
REGION 7	1,108	9.7	1,178	9.9	1,473	12.1	24.5%
REGION 8	390	1.2	444	1.4	488	1.5	25.5%
REGION 9	550	8.0	671	9.7	675	9.7	22.2%
REGION 10	955	8.2	921	7.7	1,168	9.8	19.8%
Hennepin	5,813	23.6	6,713	26.8	4,973	19.7	-16.6%
Ramsey	1,545	12.2	1,582	12.3	1,684	13.1	7.0%
Surr. Metro	2,265	9.2	2,678	10.2	2,786	10.3	12.2%
STATE	16,777	13.9	18,673	15.0	17,561	14.0	0.7%

Children in Out-of-Home Placement

	All Children	African-American	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	White
1991	16,777	3,000	1,865	344	425	10,777
1992	18,096	3,459	2,130	304	412	11,337
1993	18,673	3,860	2,108	316	562	11,489
1994	19,636	4,007	2,176	292	581	11,658
1995	18,492	3,685	2,034	308	636	11,308
1996	17,508	3,492	1,995	285	644	10,701

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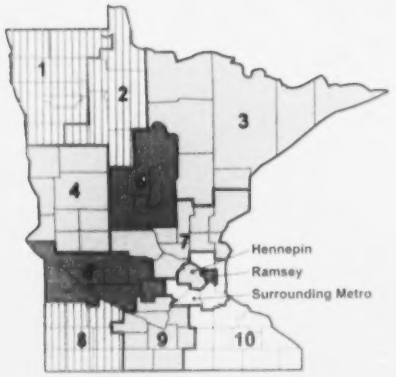
Children Dying Violently

Relatively few children die violent deaths in Minnesota each year. However, it is important to be aware of violent child deaths because many of these deaths are preventable. Homicides, suicides, and unintentional injuries such as motor vehicle crashes (children as occupants, pedestrians, and bicyclists), drownings, fires, and falls are included in this category.

According to the Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, highway crashes are the number one cause of death among youth. Advocates strive to promote four key laws: zero alcohol tolerance laws, which set the legal Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) level at .02 percent or less; teenage graduated licensing laws, in which young drivers pass through phases of restricted driving before they receive unrestricted licenses; child passenger restraint laws; and primary enforcement safety belt laws, which allow a law enforcement officer to pull over and fine motorists who are not wearing their safety belts.



Percent of Children Dying Violently in Minnesota, Compared to Average

- Significantly Less Than Average
- At or Near Average
- Significantly More Than Average
- Insufficient Data

Area	1991 #	1991 rate/1000	1993 #	1993 rate/1000	1996 #	1996 rate/1000	1991-96 % change
REGION 1	6		7		6		
REGION 2	4		9		5		
REGION 3	21	2.6	13	1.6	15	1.9	-28.2%
REGION 4	6		6		11	2.0	
REGION 5	13	3.4	18	4.6	12	2.9	-12.7%
REGION 6	18	3.9	8		11	2.4	-37.6%
REGION 7	24	2.1	20	1.7	21	1.7	-21.1%
REGION 8	2		9		5		
REGION 9	8		21	3.6	11	1.9	
REGION 10	24	2.1	10	0.8	14	1.2	-41.8%
Hennepin	35	1.4	32	1.3	42	1.7	20.1%
Ramsey	13	1.0	23	1.8	17	1.4	36.3%
Surrounding Metro	25	1.0	28	1.1	35	1.3	23.8%
STATE	199	1.6	204	1.6	205	1.6	-0.1%

High Rates of Violent Deaths in the U.S.

Although there are not many violent child deaths in Minnesota, the United States has enormously high rates of homicide, suicide, and firearm-related deaths for children 15 and younger among the world's 26 richest industrialized countries. According to a report released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention:

- The homicide rate for children in the U.S. is higher than for children in the other twenty-five countries combined.
- The U.S. suicide rates among juveniles are twice as high.
- The firearm-related homicide rate in the United States was nearly 16 times higher.

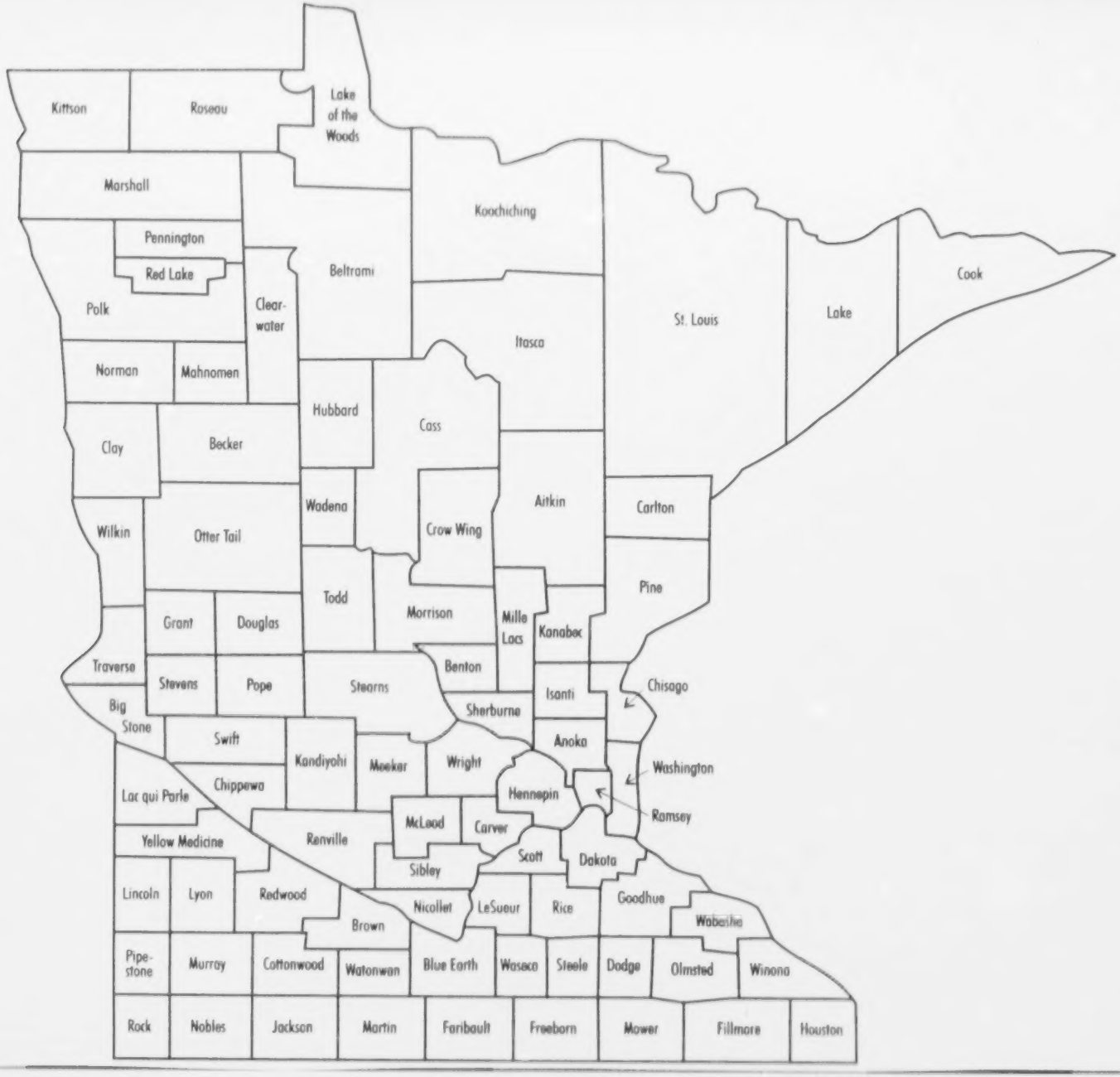
Minnesota Trends

In 1996, 205 Minnesota children died violently. The largest numbers of violent death in Minnesota are related to motor vehicles. There is no clear trend over time in the number of violent, preventable child deaths in Minnesota. The number of homicides is up slightly in the last two years, but still comprise only 16% of violent deaths in 1996. Although the numbers are too small to calculate accurate rates in Regions 1, 2, 8 and 9, rates for the remaining regions are fairly consistent across the state. Region 5 and Region 6 in the north and east-central part of Minnesota reported the highest rates, with Region 10 in southeast Minnesota reporting the lowest.

Statewide Statistics: Children Dying Violently

	All Children	Children of Color*	Murder	Suicide	Motor Vehicle Crashes
1991	199	30	21	28	73
1992	213	32	20	39	84
1993	204	41	23	27	75
1994	183	41	19	16	108
1995	211	44	29	34	75
1996	205	35	32	24	92

* includes Hispanic



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kids count minnesota

Minnesota

Demographics (1990)

Estimated population, 1996	4,657,758
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,247,008
Estimated % children, 1996	26.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,209,365
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.1%
Projected population, 2000	4,649,480

Minnesota is the twentieth largest state in the United States. The per capita income in 1995 was $23,937, seventeenth in the country. The largest industries in 1995 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. Services was the fastest growing industry, increasing 4.5% between 1994 and 1995.

In the most recent national KIDS COUNT data book, which used 1994 figures, Minnesota ranked eleventh best in the nation, a drop from an eighth-place ranking for the previous year. Although Minnesota ranked fifth best in its teen birth rate, and seventh for the percent of children born at low birth weight, the state slipped from seventh to eighteenth in the percent of high school dropouts, and from twentieth to twenty-seventh in juvenile arrests for violent crimes. The state ranks twenty-sixth in the percentage of children living in poverty.

	1991		1993		1996	
Family Economics						
Children living below the poverty line	165,531	14.0%	185,224	14.7%		
Children receiving AFDC	115,508	9.6%	125,260	10.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	198,407	25.6%	224,860	27.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances						
Children born to teenage mothers	1,840		1,958		2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3,339	5.0%	3,320	5.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			27,172	39.3%	22,023	32.2%
Signs of Trouble						
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	11,491	3.5%	12,387	3.4%	15,701	4.1% (c)
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1,382	23.6%	1,767	26.0%	2,123	29.9% (c)
Children abused and neglected (rate per 1,000)	10,224	8.5	11,064	8.9	10,200	8.1
Children in out-of-home placements (rate per 1,000)	16,777	13.9	18,673	15.0	17,508	14.0
Children dying violently (rate per 1,000)	199	1.6	204	1.6	205	1.6

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Aitkin

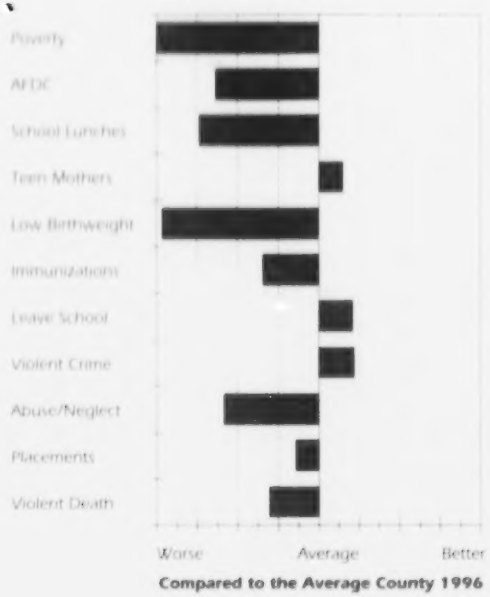
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	13,715
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,195
Estimated % children, 1996	23.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,996
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	6.6%
Projected population, 2000	11,570

Aitkin County is located in northeastern Minnesota and is among the smallest third of counties in population. Its per capita personal income of $15,886 was the eighth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were service, local and state government, and retail. Construction was the fastest growing industry, which increased 9.5 percent from 1994.

Aitkin County fared better than the average county in the rate of births to teen mothers. The number of children not fully immunized by the age of two also decreased between 1992 and 1995. Although the number of children receiving AFDC had decreased slightly in 1996, there was still a higher percentage of children receiving AFDC in Aitkin County compared to the average Minnesota county. Substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect were also higher than in the average county, as was the percentage of children born at low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Aitkin County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	894	29.8%	834	25.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	447	15.0%	500	16.4%	406	12.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	506	55.2%	1,083	46.6%	1,088	46.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		6		4	15.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	6	5.2%	6	4.5%	11	8.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			93	52.2%	57	37.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	19	2.1%	13	1.2%	22	1.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	50.0%	2	14.0%	4	16.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	22		47		39		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	47		75		47		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Anoka

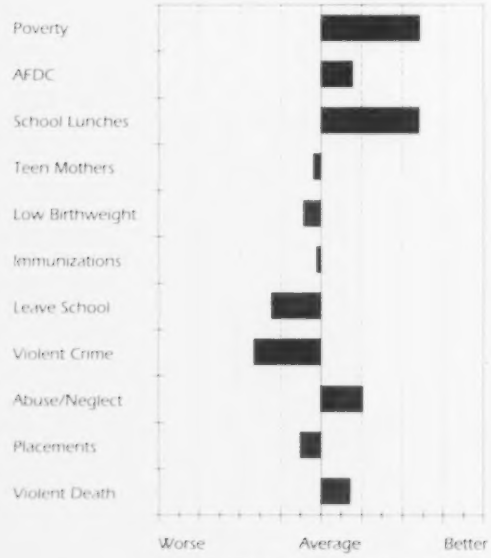
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	282,139
Estimated number of children, 1996	85,540
Estimated % children, 1996	30.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	78,161
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	9.4%
Projected population, 2000	281,870

Anoka County is part of the northern section of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. This county is the fourth largest in Minnesota. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry in Anoka was state and local government, which increased 7.6 percent. Anoka had a per capita personal income of $21,587, the twelfth highest in the state.

Anoka County had a lower percentage of children on AFDC and children eligible for free or reduced-price lunch than the average county. Anoka County also had a lower percentage of children in poverty and a low number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in comparison with the average county. Anoka's rate of arrests for violent crimes by children has increased slightly from 1993 to 1996, and the number of children in out-of-home placements increased steadily from 1991 to 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Anoka County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	5,415	7.2%	7,699	9.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	4,528	5.8%	5,112	6.3%	4,653	5.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	8,416	15.8%	10,599	18.9%	10,834	18.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	104		96		116	18.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	208	4.8%	187	4.3%	226	5.4%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			1,795	37.0%	1,504	32.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	595	2.6%	793	3.2%	998	3.8% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	104	39.7%	104	38.0%	132	43.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	401		503		442		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	874		1,063		1,241		17,508	
Children dying violently	7		12		10		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Becker

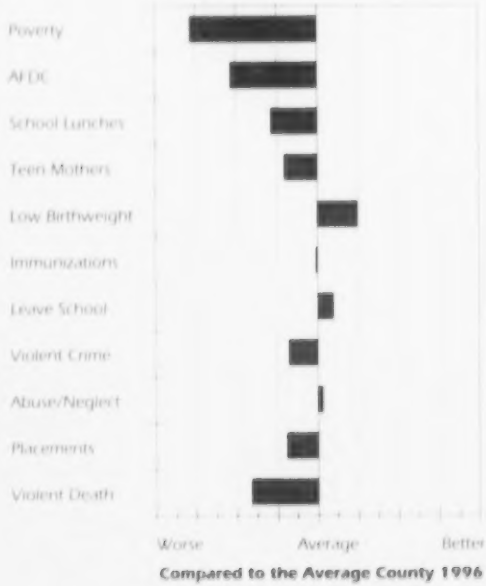
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	29,161
Estimated number of children, 1996	8,404
Estimated % children, 1996	28.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,256
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.8%
Projected population, 2000	25,360

Becker County is a moderate-sized county located in northwestern Minnesota. A portion of the White Earth Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1995, Becker had a per capita personal income of $16,625, which was the seventeenth lowest in the state. Becker County's largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail. The fastest growing industry in 1995 was transportation and public utilities, which increased 10 percent.

The percentage of babies born at a low birth weight was low in comparison with the average Minnesota county. Becker County also saw a drop in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect from 1993 to 1996. Although the percentage of children receiving AFDC and free and reduced-price lunch has decreased steadily from 1993 to 1996, these percentages still remain high in comparison to the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Becker County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,319	28.3%	2,024	23.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,189	14.4%	1,116	13.4%	995	11.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,004	39.3%	2,105	41.5%	1,896	36.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	19		19		18	20.5 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	17	4.1%	18	5.1%	16	4.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			155	38.5%	123	32.6%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	31	1.4%	32	1.4%	56	2.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	12.5%	2	11.8%	6	33.3%	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	71		105		59		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	110		122		129		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		1		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Beltrami

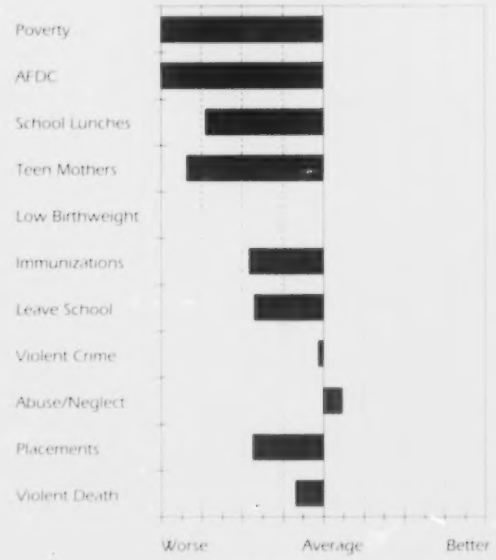
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	38,274
Estimated number of children, 1996	11,589
Estimated % children, 1996	30.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	10,622
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	9.1%
Projected population, 2000	36,500

Beltrami County is located in north central Minnesota and is the twenty-second largest county in the state. The Red Lake Indian Reservation is located in the county. In 1994, Beltrami had a per capita personal income of $16,086, the eleventh lowest in Minnesota. Services, state and local government, and retail were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities, which increased by 12% between 1994 and 1995.

Although the percentage of children on AFDC has decreased in most Minnesota counties, this is not the case in Beltrami. The percentage of children eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch has continued to rise between 1991 and 1996 and remains high in comparison with the average county. Beltrami County also had a higher rate of children born to teenage mothers in 1993-95 compared to the average county. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect is lower in Beltrami than the average Minnesota county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Beltrami County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	3,237	31.7%	3,385	29.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	2,455	23.2%	2,716	24.7%	2,577	22.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,942	36.3%	3,572	42.1%	3,986	45.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	22		22		27	30.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	23	3.6%	34	6.4%	28	5.0%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			236	44.6%	255	38.5%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	74	2.3%	75	2.0%	164	4.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	12	30.0%	11	21.0%	12	27.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	90		105		73		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	201		231		216		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		6		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Benton

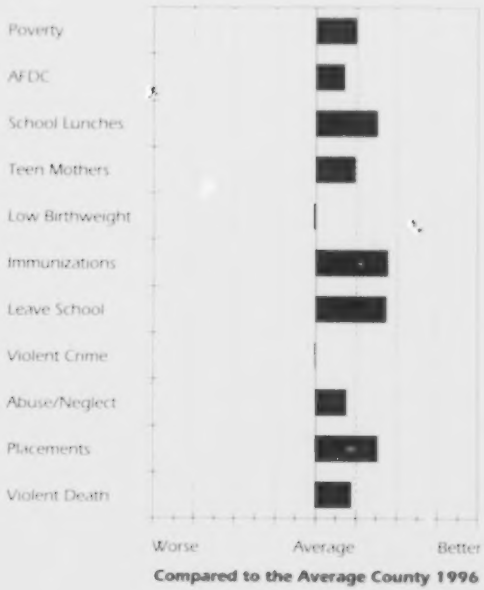
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	33,336
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,952
Estimated % children, 1996	29.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,387
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	6.0%
Projected population, 2000	33,780

Benton County is a moderate sized county located within the St. Cloud Metropolitan area in central Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $17,689 increased 5.4% from 1994 to 1995, faster than the state average. The largest industries in 1994 in Benton County were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and retail. Services was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 12.6% from 1994 to 1995.

Children in Benton County did better than the average county's children on all of the indicators of well-being. There was a sharp decrease between 1993 and 1996 in the percentage of children receiving AFDC. There were slight decreases on many of the other indicators but no other significant trends.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Benton County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,268	*13.7%*	1,290	*12.8%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	647	*6.9%*	682	*7.0%*	557	*5.6%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,182	*23.4%*	1,326	*23.8%*	1,317	*23.0%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		9		10	*13.8* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	25	*4.8%*	31	*6.6%*	25	*5.1%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			164	*29.5%*	148	*26.7%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	7	*0.4%*	13	*0.6%*	26	*1.1%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*12.5%*	8	*44.0%*	6	*26.1%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	52		48		57		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	53		76		76		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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kids count minnesota

Big Stone

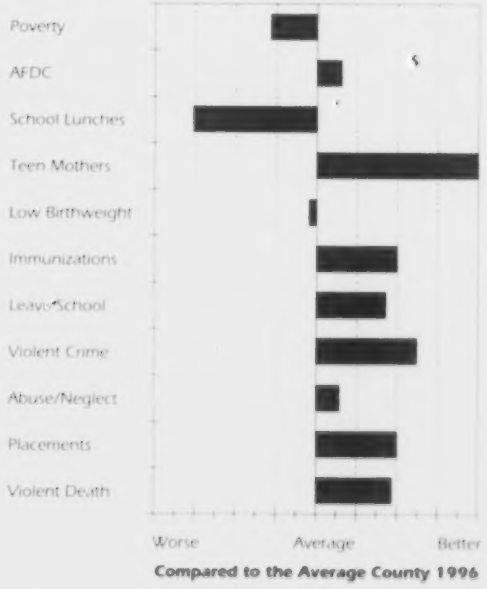
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	5,839
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,480
Estimated % children, 1996	25.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,620
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-8.6%
Projected population, 2000	5,470

Big Stone County is located in west central Minnesota on the South Dakota border. Its population of 5,896 makes Big Stone the sixth smallest county in the state. In 1995, Big Stone had a per capita personal income of $16,382. This income ranked relatively low compared to the rest of the state, although it reflects an 8.5% increase from 1994. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and construction. The fastest growing industry was finance, insurance, and real estate, which increased 9.9% between 1994 and 1995.

Big Stone County children did well on several indicators of well-being. There was a steady decline in the number of children receiving AFDC from 1993 to 1996. Although the number of children eligible for free or reduced-price lunches remained fairly steady, it was significantly higher than the average Minnesota county. This shows that there is a high percentage of low-income children in Big Stone County. The rate of children born to teenagers in 1993-95 was significantly lower than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Big Stone County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	324	*20.0%*	282	*18.3%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	107	*6.6%*	121	*7.8%*	85	*5.7%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	611	*46.6%*	662	*48.6%*	666	*46.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		1		1	*2.4* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	*4.3%*	0		3	*5.2%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			51	*38.3%*	21	*25.9%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	0		4	*0.6%*	8	*1.1%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	13		2		9		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		2		9		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Blue Earth

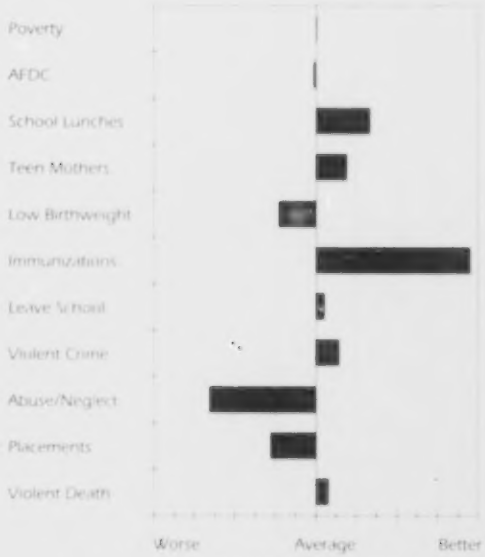
Blue Earth County, located in south central Minnesota, is the twelfth largest county in Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $20,631 was the sixteenth highest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was wholesale trade, which increased 12% between 1994 and 1995.

The number of children receiving AFDC declined steadily between 1993 and 1996. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect declined from 1993 to 1996, but was higher in Blue Earth County than in the average Minnesota county. The number of children in out-of-home placements also increased between 1994 and 1996. Children in Blue Earth County were much more likely to be fully immunized by age two than were children in the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	54,199
Estimated number of children, 1996	12,568
Estimated % children, 1996	23.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	12,730
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.3%
Projected population, 2000	53,640

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Blue Earth County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,611	*12.8%*	1,987	*15.3%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	1,114	*8.8%*	1,129	*8.9%*	913	*7.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,361	*22.6%*	2,612	*23.6%*	2,669	*23.9%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	14		14		17	*14.6* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	19	*3.1%*	23	*3.7%*	37	*5.8%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			187	*21.9%*	157	*20.0%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	104	*2.3%*	127	*2.6%*	124	*2.5%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*4.2%*	15	*28.0%*	12	*20.0%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	188		270		161		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	141		172		208		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		5		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Brown

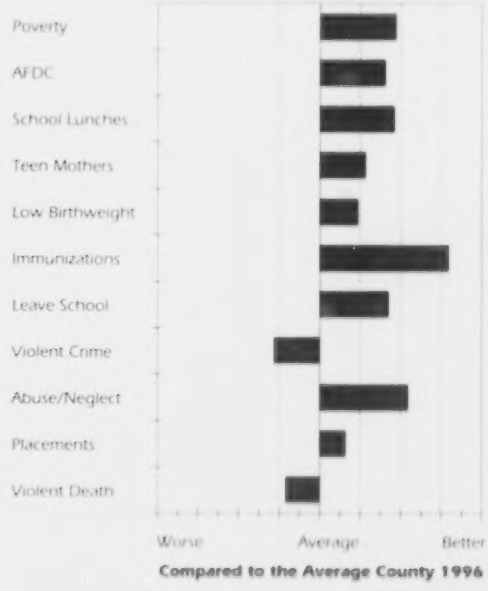
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	27,262
Estimated number of children, 1996	7,321
Estimated % children, 1996	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,453
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.8%
Projected population, 2000	25,690

Brown County is a moderate-sized county located along the Minnesota River in the southwestern portion of the state. Brown County had a 1995 per capita personal income of $20,266, which ranked 18th in the state. The largest industries were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and durable goods manufacturing. Non-durable goods was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 8.8%.

Children in Brown County did well on several indicators of child well-being. Like most other counties, there was a steady decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC between the years of 1993 and 1996. This percentage was also lower than the average Minnesota county. The percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two decreased from 29% in 1993 to 22% in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Brown County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	753	9.9%	800	10.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	307	4.1%	360	4.8%	263	3.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,305	21.8%	1,434	23.2%	1,392	21.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	8		6		6	13.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	23	6.6%	12	3.4%	12	4.3%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			133	29.0%	95	22.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	29	1.5%	31	1.4%	25	1.1% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	9.1%	1	7.0%	3	37.5% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	32		34		20		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		57		78		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		0		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Carlton

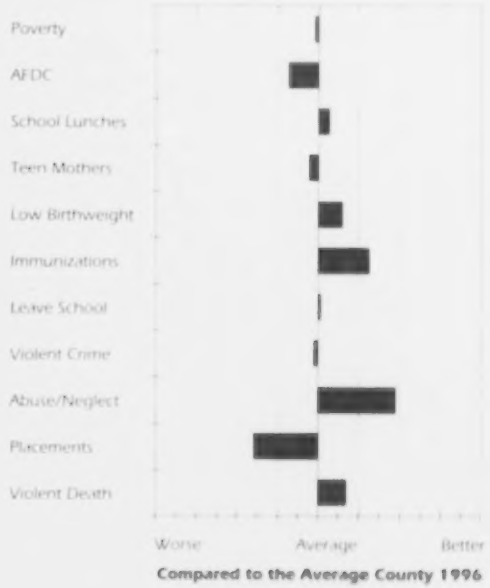
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	30,426
Estimated number of children, 1996	8,464
Estimated % children, 1996	27.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,324
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.7%
Projected population, 2000	28,710

Carlton County is a mid-sized county located in northwestern Minnesota on the shore of Lake Superior. It includes part of the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation. In 1995, Carlton had a per capita personal income of $17,707, which is slightly lower than the average among Minnesota counties. Non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services were the largest industries. The fastest growing industry was construction, which increased 20.4% between 1994 and 1995.

The number of children receiving AFDC in Carlton County decreased, although this percentage is still higher than the average county. There was also a steady decrease in the number of students receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. Carlton County has also seen a decrease in the number of children not fully immunized by the age of two from 1992 to 1995. Carlton County's percentage of children in out-of-home care was higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carlton County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,270	15.3%	1,357	15.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	875	10.5%	865	10.3%	740	8.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,029	30.8%	2,090	30.8%	1,899	29.5%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	9		17		7	18.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	10	2.9%	17	5.2%	15	4.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			216	41.2%	152	28.4%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	101	3.4%	53	1.7%	84	2.6% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	20.0%	5	14.0%	7	26.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	34		24		28		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	134		124		153		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		2		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Carver

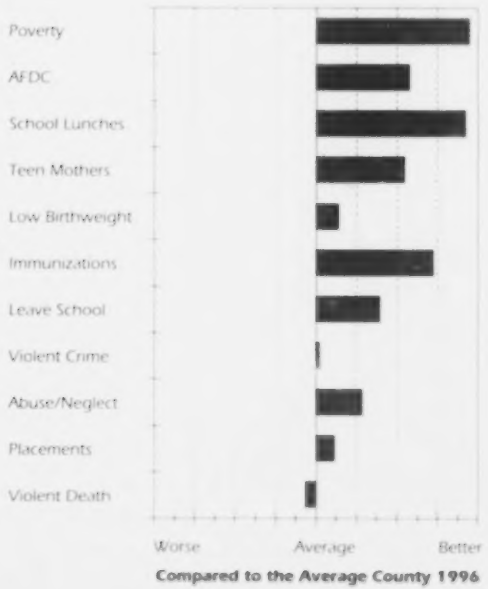
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	61,415
Estimated number of children, 1996	18,453
Estimated % children, 1996	30.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	15,285
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	20.7%
Projected population, 2000	57,390

Carver County, the 11th largest county in the state, is located on the western edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1995, Carver had the fourth highest per capita personal income in the state: $25,967. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing, and services. The durable goods manufacturing industry was the fastest growing, increasing by almost 19% from 1994 to 1995.

Carver County fared better than the average county on almost all of the indicators that measure the well-being of children. The number of children in out-of-home placements rose between 1991 and 1996. The percentage of children on AFDC and the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch has remained very low in Carver County in comparison with other Minnesota counties.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Carver County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	744	5.0%	990	5.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	375	2.5%	384	2.3%	374	2.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,025	11.6%	1,272	12.9%	1,302	11.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	14		8		21	9.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	33	3.7%	34	3.6%	48	4.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			275	34.0%	231	23.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	227	6.5%	41	1.0%	54	1.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	10.3%	15	30.0%	14	25.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	56		78		90		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	114		146		208		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		1		4		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Cass

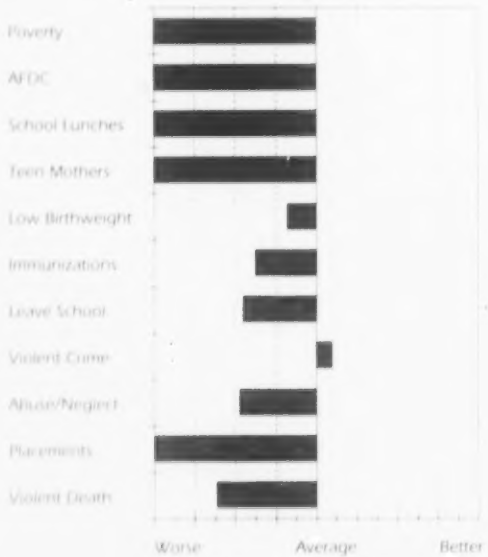
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	25,329
Estimated number of children, 1996	6,836
Estimated % children, 1996	27.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,099
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	12.1%
Projected population, 2000	22,330

Cass County is a moderate-sized county located in north central Minnesota. Part of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation is within the county's borders. Cass County's per capita personal income of $16,486 was the fourteenth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail. The fastest growing was services, which increased by 8.3% between 1994 and 1995.

The situation for children in Cass County remained largely unchanged from 1991 to 1996. Children are doing less well in Cass County than children in the average Minnesota county on most of the indicators. Cass County did not experience a large drop in the number of children receiving AFDC, as many other counties have experienced, and this percentage remains high as well. Although the percentage of violent crimes committed by children increased between 1993 and 1996, this percentage was lower than the average Minnesota county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cass County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,409	39.9%	1,961	29.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,160	19.1%	1,194	18.6%	1,103	16.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,491	53.3%	2,710	56.6%	3,307	61.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	16		10		20	33.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	19	6.4%	18	6.3%	16	5.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			154	41.3%	155	37.4%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	105	5.8%	128	6.5%	89	4.4% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	17.9%	1	2.0%	7	21.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	90		105		77		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	190		233		211		17,508	
Children dying violently	4		4		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Chippewa

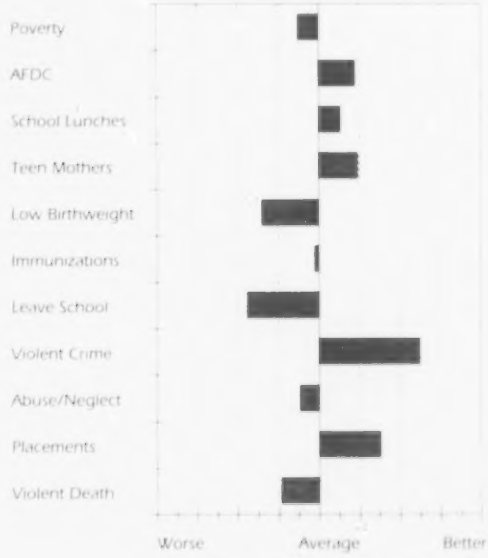
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	13,132
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,504
Estimated % children, 1996	26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,622
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.2%
Projected population, 2000	11,940

Chippewa County is a moderately small county located in west central Minnesota along the Minnesota River. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1995, Chippewa had a per capita personal income of $19,656, which was twenty-fifth in the state. The largest industries were durable goods, state and local government, and services. Construction was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 25.2% from 1994 to 1995.

Chippewa County children fared well on many of the indicators. Children in Chippewa County were somewhat more likely than children in the average Minnesota county to be born at low birth weight. Chippewa County had a very low rate of the percentage of children committing violent crimes, but a higher-than-average percentage dropping out of school.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chippewa County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	712	19.6%	608	16.7%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	223	6.2%	252	7.0%	181	5.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	693	28.3%	739	29.5%	756	28.1%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		3		4	13.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.4%	5	3.3%	9	6.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			57	38.8%	42	32.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	19	1.6%	34	2.7%	60	4.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	14.3%	0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	41		66		29		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		35		27		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Chisago

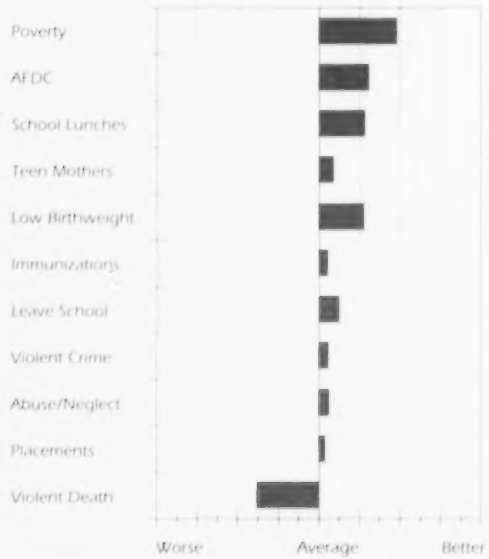
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	38,123
Estimated number of children, 1996	11,656
Estimated % children, 1996	30.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,777
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	19.2%
Projected population, 2000	33,990

Chisago County is located in west central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border and is part of the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Its population of 37,014 ranked twenty-fourth in the state. In 1995, Chisago had a per capita personal income of $19,355 which ranked a little higher than the average Minnesota county. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 21.2 percent.

Many of the indicators of child well-being remained steady during the past few years in Chisago County. With the exception of the child violent death rate, all of the indicators show that Chisago County children did relatively well in comparison with the average county. One area of concern may be the jump in the number of children being born to teenage mothers in 1996. This may continue to be a long term trend, although it may also be a single year fluctuation.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Chisago County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	862	9.0%	1,166	10.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	579	5.9%	637	6.1%	516	4.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,372	22.9%	1,511	23.9%	1,807	25.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	10		14		22	16.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	21	4.4%	17	3.2%	24	4.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			231	46.5%	216	31.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	124	4.3%	92	3.1%	71	2.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	8.8%	9	29.0%	12	23.5% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	65		51		79		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	137		144		143		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		5		4		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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kids count minnesota

Clay

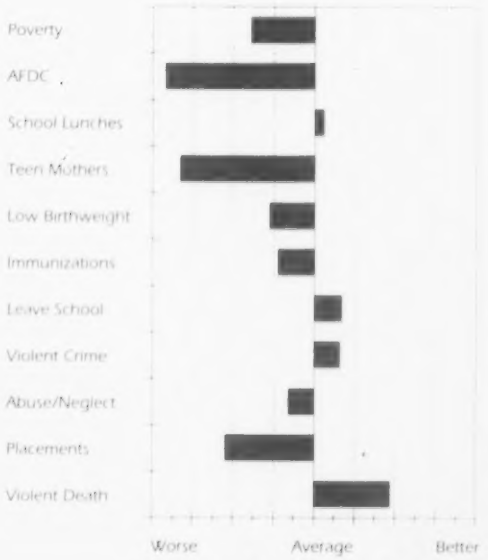
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	51,848
Estimated number of children, 1996	13,164
Estimated % children, 1996	25.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,302
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.0%
Projected population, 2000	52,010

Clay County is located in northwestern Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is part of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the sixteenth largest county in Minnesota. Clay County's population during the summer months includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1994, Clay County had a per capita personal income of $17,114, which is relatively lower than the average Minnesota county. The largest industries were state and local government, services, and retail. Wholesale increased by 20.8% between 1994 and 1995.

In 1996, a higher-than-average percentage of children received AFDC in Clay County. This rate decreased slightly in 1996 but still remained higher than the average county. The rate of children born to teenage mothers was also higher in Clay County than the average county. Clay County saw a significant drop in the percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clay County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,417	18.9%	2,617	19.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,765	13.3%	2,110	15.5%	2,005	15.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,415	28.2%	2,676	30.2%	2,696	29.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	23		22		22	30.0 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	30	4.6%	39	5.9%	38	5.9%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			371	51.9%	254	35.4%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	48	1.3%	43	1.1%	87	2.0% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	10.9%	9	20.0%	6	19.4% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	101		125		113		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	214		194		265		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Clearwater

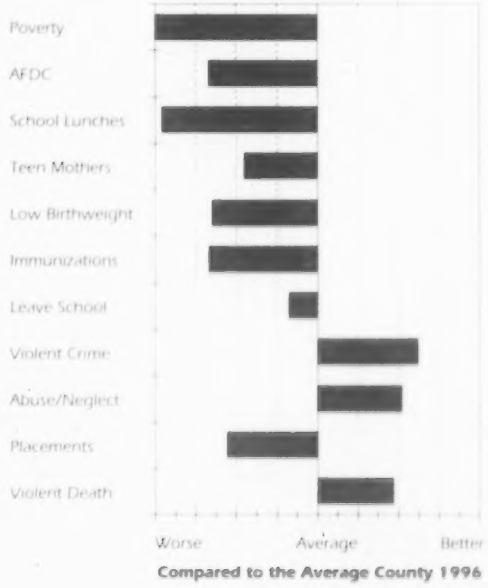
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	8,254
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,368
Estimated % children, 1996	28.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,408
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.6%
Projected population, 2000	7,980

Clearwater County, in northwestern Minnesota, is the eleventh smallest county in the state. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located within the county. The county's 1995 per capita personal income of $14,592 was the third lowest in Minnesota. State and local government, construction, and services were the county's largest industries in 1994. The fastest growing industry in 1995 was transportation and public utilities, which increased 31.4 from the previous year.

The percentage of children on AFDC in Clearwater County continued to decline in 1996, although it was still higher than the average county. Almost 50% of children received free or reduced-price lunch in 1996, which indicates a significant number of low-income students. This percentage has increased between 1991 and 1996. Clearwater County had a lower-than-average number of substantiated reports of abused and neglected children, and there were no children arrested for committing violent crimes for the second year in a row.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Clearwater County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	925	37.6%	706	28.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	410	17.1%	354	14.8%	309	13.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	824	45.2%	911	49.9%	933	50.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		4		3	24.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	4.1%	6	6.0%	7	7.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			70	48.6%	50	41.3%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	28	3.4%	6	0.7%	29	3.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	11.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	13		18		7		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	32		38		48		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Cook

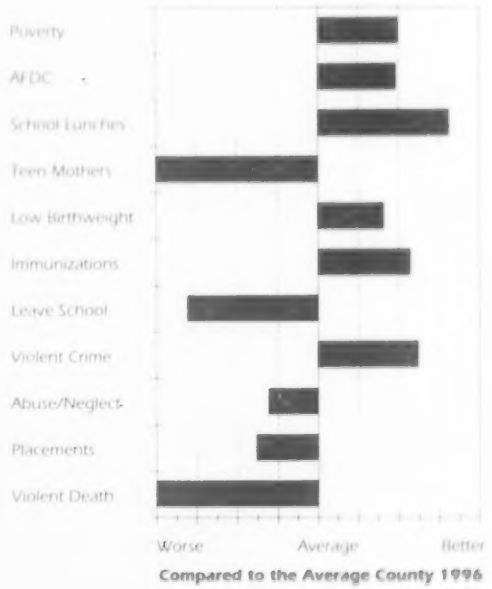
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	4,688
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,119
Estimated % children, 1996	23.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	962
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	16.3%
Projected population, 2000	3,700

Cook County is the fourth smallest county in Minnesota. It is located in the Arrowhead Region of northeastern Minnesota bordering Canada and Lake Superior. The Grand Portage Indian Reservation is located in the county. Its per capita personal income of $21,090 was the thirteenth highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Services was also the fastest growing, increasing at a rate of 10.9% between 1994 and 1995.

The indicators have remained relatively steady for the past few years in Cook County. In 1996, the number of children in out-of-home placements increased significantly, making the percentage of children in out-of-home placements higher in Cook County than the average. Cook County has a lower-than-average percentage of children receiving AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunch in comparison with the average Minnesota county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cook County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	134	14.5%	110	10.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	40	4.2%	25	2.4%	32	2.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	108	16.5%	99	14.0%	99	14.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		2		0	32.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	1	2.2%	3	6.4%	2	3.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			16	27.6%	14	25.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	1.7%	6	1.9%	19	5.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	15		6		11		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	12		10		20		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Cottonwood

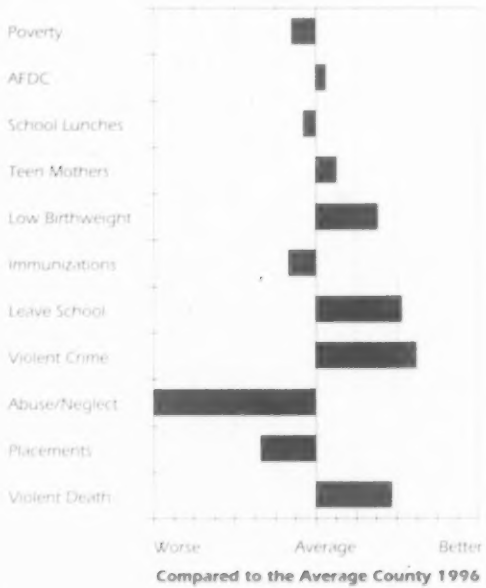
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	12,321
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,174
Estimated % children, 1996	25.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,273
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.0%
Projected population, 2000	11,390

Cottonwood County is a moderately small county located in southwestern Minnesota. Cottonwood County's 1995 per capita personal income of $18,253 is slightly lower than the average Minnesota county. The largest industries in 1994 were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities, which increased 8.6% between 1994 and 1995.

Cottonwood County experienced a large increase in substantiated reports of abused and neglected children between 1995 and 1996. The rate of reports of abuse and neglect is also significantly higher in Cottonwood than the average county. The percentage of children born at low birth weight and to teenage mothers continued to be lower than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Cottonwood County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	498	14.9%	561	16.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	221	6.8%	305	9.3%	208	6.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	749	31.2%	870	34.3%	792	32.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		6		8	15.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.6%	9	6.1%	5	3.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			74	39.4%	60	34.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	9	0.8%	9	0.8%	8	0.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		5	42.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	57		27		54		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	45		46		55		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Crow Wing

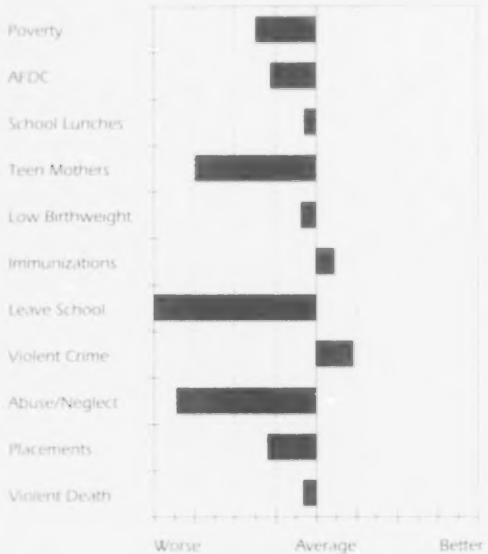
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	50,634
Estimated number of children, 1996	13,507
Estimated % children, 1996	26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	12,332
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	9.5%
Projected population, 2000	46,200

Crow Wing County is located in the north central portion of Minnesota and is the seventeenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1994 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Construction increased by 14% from 1993 to 1994, making it the fastest growing industry. In 1994, Crow Wing County had a per capita personal income of $17,755, forty-six highest in the state.

Between 1991 and 1996, Crow Wing County had a steady decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC, although the percentage is still slightly higher than the average. The percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price lunch remained consistent and was also higher than the average county. The number of children born to teenage mothers dropped significantly from 1995 to 1996. This may or may not indicate a longer-term trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Crow Wing County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,592	21.6%	2,580	19.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,510	12.3%	1,481	11.5%	1,292	9.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,984	33.1%	3,172	33.1%	3,327	32.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	21		29		13	28.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	29	4.6%	29	4.8%	33	5.3%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			300	39.9%	244	31.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	180	4.4%	216	4.8%	313	6.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	6.5%	6	12.0%	9	16.4% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	206		245		196		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	175		228		227		17,508	
Children dying violently	5		7		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Dakota

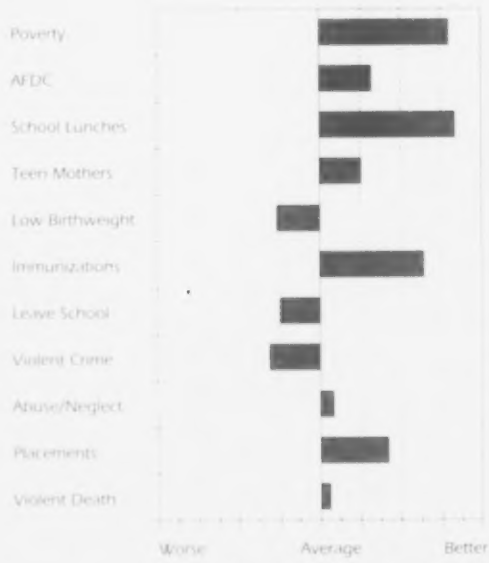
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	326,016
Estimated number of children, 1996	96,661
Estimated % children, 1996	29.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	87,463
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	10.5%
Projected population, 2000	347,220

Dakota County is the third largest county in the state and is located in the southeastern portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1995, Dakota had a per capita personal income of $26,093, the third highest in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, wholesale trade, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Services was also the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 18.3% from 1994 to 1995.

The children in Dakota County have continued to do well on most of the indicators of child well-being. The number of children receiving AFDC continued to decline and is lower than the average county. The percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price school lunch increased in 1994 and 1995, although it decreased in 1996. This percentage is also lower in Dakota county in comparison with the average county. The percentage of children arrested for violent crime continued to increase in 1996 and remains higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dakota County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	4,479	5.4%	6,757	7.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	3,893	4.5%	4,351	4.7%	4,136	4.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	6,292	11.2%	7,717	12.5%	9,299	13.5%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	66		78		105	13.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	221	4.4%	256	5.0%	303	5.9%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			1,953	37.3%	1,323	24.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	681	2.9%	869	3.1%	1,004	3.6% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	42	23.6%	88	33.0%	111	38.8% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	585		581		637		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	805		921		699		17,508	
Children dying violently	5		14		16		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Dodge

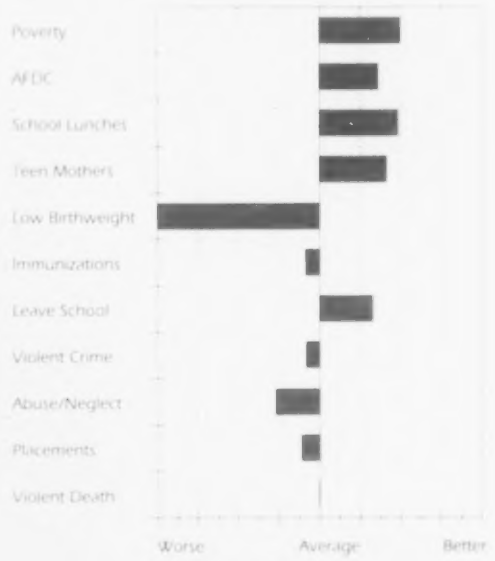
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	16,855
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,243
Estimated % children, 1996	31.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,113
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	2.5%
Projected population, 2000	16,540

Dodge County is a moderate-sized county located in southeastern Minnesota. Its per capita personal income was $19,292 in 1995, which ranked it slightly higher than average in comparison with other counties in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Services was also the fastest growing industry, increasing 37.1% between 1994 and 1995.

The number of children born at low birth weight continued to increase in 1996, making the percentage of children born at low birth weight in Dodge County significantly higher than the average county. The number of children in out-of-home placements also continued to rise in 1996, higher than the average county. Between 1993 and 1996, Dodge County saw a significant decrease in the number of children not fully immunized by the age of two.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Dodge County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	522	10.4%	548	10.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	193	3.8%	260	5.0%	207	3.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	767	20.4%	863	22.3%	833	20.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	8		4		10	11.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	14	5.5%	10	4.4%	20	8.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			123	45.1%	90	33.6%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	11	0.7%	19	1.1%	27	1.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	33.3%	0		7	29.2% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	21		51		50		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	40		31		75		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Douglas

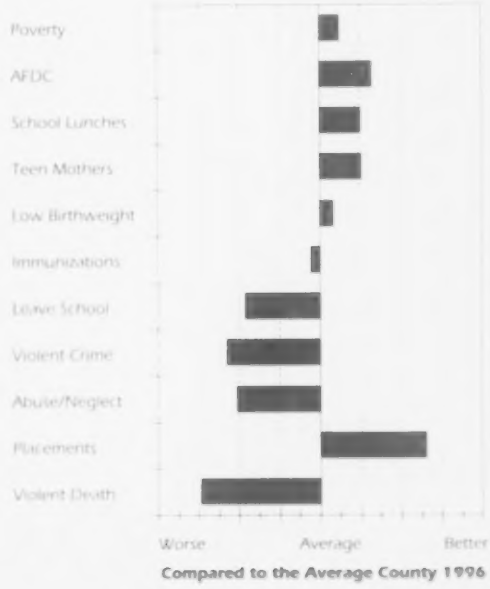
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	30,459
Estimated number of children, 1996	8,182
Estimated % children, 1996	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,928
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.2%
Projected population, 2000	28,850

Douglas County is a moderately large-sized county located in west central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry since 1995 was transportation and public utilities, which increased 13.2%. Douglas County had a per capita personal income of $18,902, which ranks about average among Minnesota counties.

Douglas County children fared well on many of the indicators. The percentage of children on AFDC decreased between 1991 and 1996. Between 1994 and 1996 the percentage of children approved for free or reduced-price lunch also declined. As a group, Douglas County children were less likely to receive AFDC and free or reduced-price lunch than the average county in Minnesota. Douglas County had higher-than-average rates of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect and a higher rate of violent child deaths in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Douglas County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,229	15.5%	1,184	14.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	470	5.9%	444	5.5%	351	4.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,757	28.5%	1,826	29.4%	1,589	25.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		9		6	13.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	21	6.1%	11	3.3%	16	4.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			160	35.8%	144	33.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	40	1.6%	138	4.9%	132	4.4% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	8	38.1%	5	22.0%	8	50.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	155		102		95		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	27		30		33		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		4		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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kids count minnesota

Faribault

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	16,405
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,286
Estimated % children, 1996	26.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,580
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-6.4%
Projected population, 2000	15,020

Faribault County is a moderately small county located in southern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities, which increased 17.5% between 1994 and 1995. The per capita personal income in Faribault County was $18,982, which is about average in comparison with other Minnesota counties.

Faribault County had lower-than-average rates of children receiving AFDC. The number of children receiving AFDC in Faribault county dropped substantially from 1995 to 1996. The county also had more children immunized by age two than in the average county. The rate of children born to teenage mothers is slightly higher than the average county. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect is also higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Faribault County

Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	762	16.5%	767	16.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC (Faribault/Martin, 1991, 1993)		8.8%	820	7.7%	282	6.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	904	27.6%	975	31.0%	911	30.1%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		6		7	18.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	13	7.3%	8	4.8%	7	4.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			69	29.5%	57	25.6%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	15	1.1%	21	1.5%	21	1.4% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	7.7%	0		1	7.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	66		42		59		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	52		38		56		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Fillmore

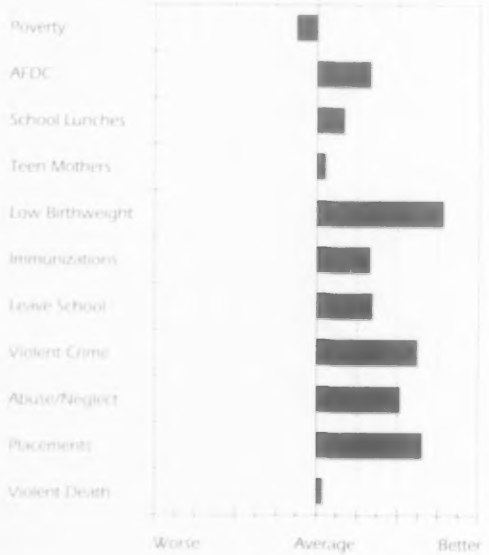
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	20,860
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,704
Estimated % children, 1996	27.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,745
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.7%
Projected population, 2000	19,950

Fillmore County is a moderate-sized county located along the Iowa border in southeastern Minnesota. In 1995, Fillmore had a per capita personal income of $17,257, which is slightly lower than the state average. Fillmore County's largest industries were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. The industry experiencing the largest growth between 1994 and 1995 was transportation and public utilities.

Substantiated reports of abuse and neglect rapidly declined between 1993 and 1996 in Fillmore County to a rate lower than the average county. The county also experienced a rapid decrease in the number of children born at low birth weight between 1994 and 1996. As a result, Fillmore County had a significantly lower-than-average percentage of children born with low birth weight. There were no children arrested for violent crime between 1991 and 1996 in Fillmore County.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Fillmore County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,009	17.2%	986	16.7%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	224	3.9%	269	4.7%	242	4.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	991	28.3%	1,047	30.1%	970	27.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	9		11		4	16.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	9	3.2%	16	6.0%	6	2.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			135	14.8%	99	28.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	20	1.2%	18	1.1%	24	1.4% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	30		31		17		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		27		23		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Freeborn

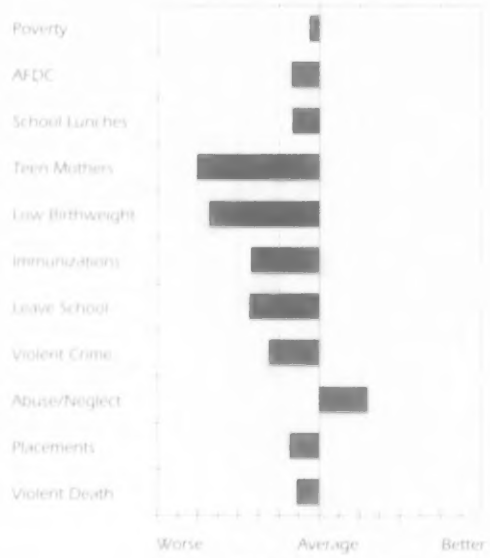
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	31,972
Estimated number of children, 1996	8,143
Estimated % children, 1996	25.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,912
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-8.6%
Projected population, 2000	30,640

Freeborn County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Iowa border. It is the twenty-seventh largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Construction was the fastest growing industry, increasing 23.3% between 1994 and 1995. Freeborn's per capita personal income was $15,277, which is about average in comparison with other Minnesota counties.

Although the number of children born at low birth weight steadily declined between 1991 and 1995, this number increased in 1996, causing a higher-than-average rate in Freeborn County. Between 1993 and 1996, Freeborn County also had a higher rate of children born to teenage mothers. The percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch increased steadily between 1991 and 1996, and remained slightly higher than the average Minnesota county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Freeborn County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,273	14.6%	1,365	16.0%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	771	8.7%	819	9.2%	702	8.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,218	24.2%	1,423	28.5%	1,371	34.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	15		21		10	28.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	32	8.1%	25	6.4%	23	7.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			197	48.5%	131	38.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	108	4.2%	100	4.1%	106	4.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4	19.0%	10	24.0%	14	38.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	101		80		39		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	110		94		124		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		1		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Goodhue

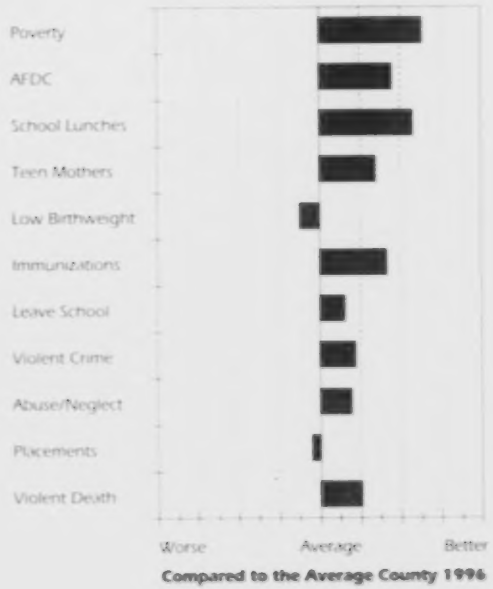
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	42,366
Estimated number of children, 1996	11,780
Estimated % children, 1996	27.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,614
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.4%
Projected population, 2000	41,480

Goodhue County is located in southeastern Minnesota along the Mississippi River and the Wisconsin border. It's the twentieth largest county in Minnesota. The Prairie Island Indian Reservation lies within its borders. The largest industries in the county were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The county experienced a 22.7% increase in durable goods manufacturing income from 1994 to 1995. The per capita personal income of $21,700 ranked eleventh in the state.

The number of children receiving AFDC steadily decreased in Goodhue County between 1991 and 1996, making this percentage lower than the average county. Although the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch is lower than average in Goodhue County, this percentage increased between 1993 and 1996. Goodhue County had a lower-than-average number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in 1996. This number increased between 1991 and 1995, but sharply dropped in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Goodhue County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,052	9.1%	1,056	8.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	581	5.0%	439	3.7%	375	3.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,320	16.5%	1,499	16.7%	1,766	18.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	10		8		7	12.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	21	3.8%	28	5.6%	28	5.4%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			237	37.0%	174	27.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	79	2.2%	84	2.0%	92	2.1% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	5.3%	12	24.0%	6	16.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	85		102		67		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	133		119		158		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		2		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Grant

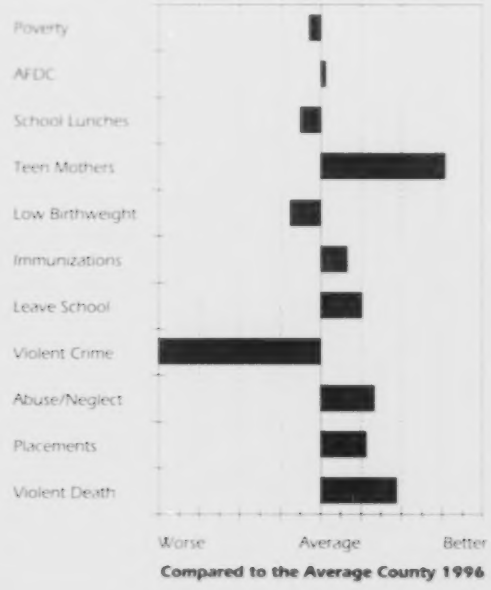
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	6,154
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,548
Estimated % children, 1996	25.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,609
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.8%
Projected population, 2000	5,620

Grant County is the eighth smallest county and is located in west central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, construction, and state and local government. The greatest growth came from the transportation and public utilities industry, which increased 55.2% between 1994 and 1995. In 1995, Grant County had a per capita personal income of $19,470, reflecting an increase of 6.6% from the previous year.

Between 1991 and 1996, no children in Grant County died violent deaths, and very few children were born to teenage mothers. The county also had lower-than-average percentages of out-of home placements and substantiated reports of abuse and neglect. The percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch steadily increased between 1993 and 1996. The high rate of violent crime reflects the fact that no adults were arrested for violent crimes in 1995. The actual number of children arrested was quite small.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Grant County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	288	17.5%	260	16.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	128	8.0%	123	7.9%	106	6.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free / reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	463	32.7%	443	32.5%	513	33.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		1		3	5.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	1	1.8%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			17	36.2%	23	30.3%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	0.7%	1	0.1%	14	1.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	25.0%	2	100.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	2		5		7		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		11		14		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Hennepin

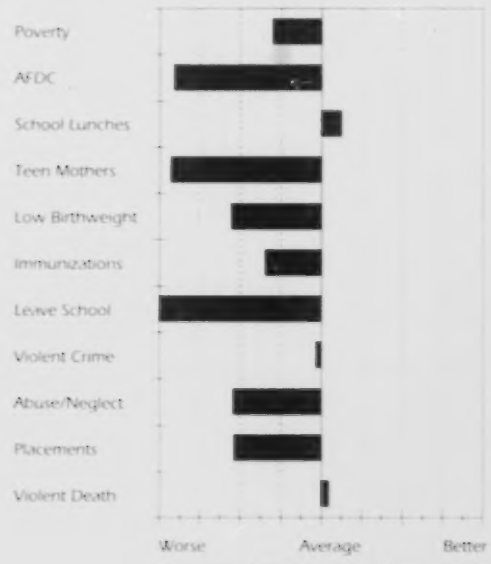
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	1,058,746
Estimated number of children, 1996	246,346
Estimated % children, 1996	23.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	246,930
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.2%
Projected population, 2000	1,110,300

Hennepin County, which contains the city of Minneapolis and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area, is the largest county in the state. Hennepin County is ethnically and racially diverse, including African-American, American Indian, Asian and Chicano/Latino children and families. In 1995, Hennepin County as a whole had a per capita personal income of $32,130, the highest in the state. The county's largest industries in 1995 were services, finance, insurance, and real estate, and durable goods manufacturing. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 9% between 1994 and 1995.

Hennepin County experienced a drop in the number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect between 1993 and 1996. Hennepin County did not share in the statewide decrease in the number of children receiving AFDC. This percentage has remained at about 15% between 1993 and 1996, which is higher than the average county. There was a slight decrease in the percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two between 1992 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hennepin County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	36,924	15.3%	46,466	18.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	34,349	13.9%	37,948	15.2%	37,243	15.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	36,828	27.0%	48,220	33.4%	43,778	28.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	557		558		534	31.5 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	967	5.8%	911	5.8%	1,045	6.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			5,969	42.1%	5,572	37.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	3,364	6.0%	3,554	5.9%	4,749	7.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	569	24.2%	640	23.0%	771	27.1% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	3,048		3,545		2,919		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	5,813		6,713		4,933		17,508	
Children dying violently	35		32		42		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Houston

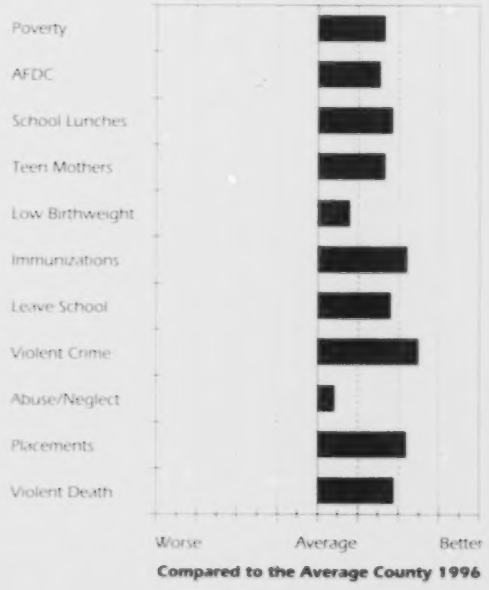
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	19,226
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,435
Estimated % children, 1996	28.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,325
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	2.1%
Projected population, 2000	18,560

Houston County is located in the southeastern corner of Minnesota on the Iowa and Wisconsin borders. It is considered part of the LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Metropolitan Statistical Area. In 1995, Houston County had a per capita personal income of $19,169, which ranked slightly higher than average compared to other Minnesota counties. Services, state and local government, and transportation and public utilities comprised the largest industries. Transportation and public utilities was also the fastest growing industry, increasing almost 40% between 1994 and 1995.

Houston County fared better than the average county on all of the indicators of child well-being. In 1996, no children were arrested for committing violent crimes, and there were no violent child deaths. There was a slight increase in the number of children born at low birth weight between 1993 and 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Houston County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	612	11.3%	623	11.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	227	4.3%	276	5.1%	203	3.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	774	20.2%	836	21.4%	873	21.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	7		3		3	11.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	1.9%	5	2.0%	10	4.4%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			132	43.6%	77	25.3%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	9	0.6%	19	1.1%	18	1.0% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	20.0%	4	31.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	14		38		35		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	24		32		30		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Hubbard

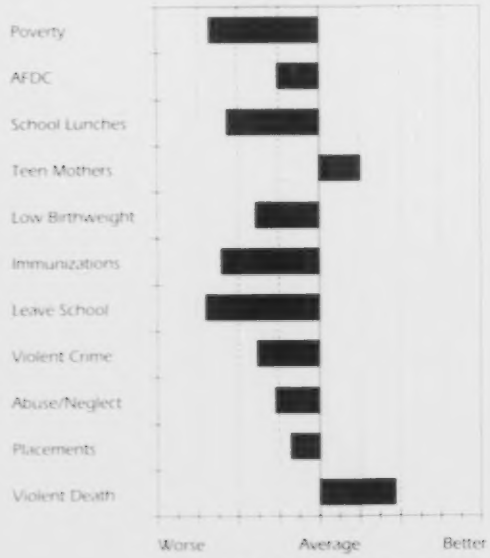
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	16,406
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,411
Estimated % children, 1996	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,179
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	5.5%
Projected population, 2000	15,440

Hubbard County is a mid-sized county located in the north central portion of the state. In 1995, Hubbard County had a per capita personal income of $16,074, the tenth lowest in the state. Its largest industries were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. Non-durable goods manufacturing grew significantly in 1995.

Hubbard County had a higher-than-average percentage of children receiving AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunch in 1996. The percentage of children arrested for violent crime was also higher in comparison with the average county. The number of children in out-of-home placements, as well as the number of substantial reports of abuse and neglect, have decreased slightly between 1993 and 1996. Hubbard County also had a very low percentage of children dropping out of school in 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Hubbard County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,213	29.3%	992	22.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	499	12.0%	424	9.9%	413	9.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,073	39.4%	1,323	47.0%	1,230	42.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		6		10	13.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	7	3.8%	11	6.5%	10	6.3%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			88	49.2%	74	40.4%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	34	2.8%	20	1.5%	75	5.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		4	22.0%	5	41.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	62		57		42		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	89		85		67		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Isanti

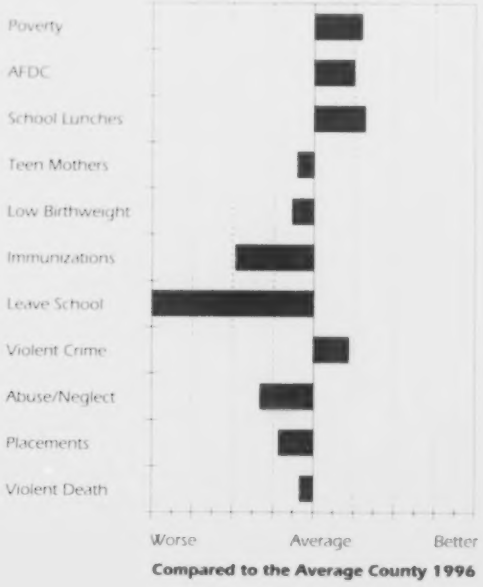
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	29,017
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,022
Estimated % children, 1996	31.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	8,324
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	8.4%
Projected population, 2000	27,470

Isanti County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Services, state and local government and durable goods manufacturing were the largest industries in 1995. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by 14.9%. Isanti County's per capita personal income of $18,931 is average compared with other Minnesota counties.

The percentage of children born at low birth weight steadily increased between 1993 and 1996, although Isanti County was still slightly better than average on this indicator. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect also increased slightly in 1996. The county had a higher-than-average percentage of children dropping out of school. Isanti County continued to have a lower percentage of children receiving AFDC and free or reduced-price school lunch than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Isanti County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,034	*12.7%*	1,094	*12.3%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	663	*8.0%*	636	*7.4%*	444	*4.9%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,352	*25.4%*	1,606	*28.8%*	1,390	*24.3%*	229,059	*26.[illegible]%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	9		12		15	*19.0* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	9	*2.6%*	15	*4.5%*	23	*5.5%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			178	*47.2%*	147	*38.8%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	101	*4.1%*	171	*6.3%*	183	*6.6%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*14.3%*	1	*10.0%*	3	*16.7%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	33		34		91		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	121		138		141		17,508	
Children dying violently	4		2		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Itasca

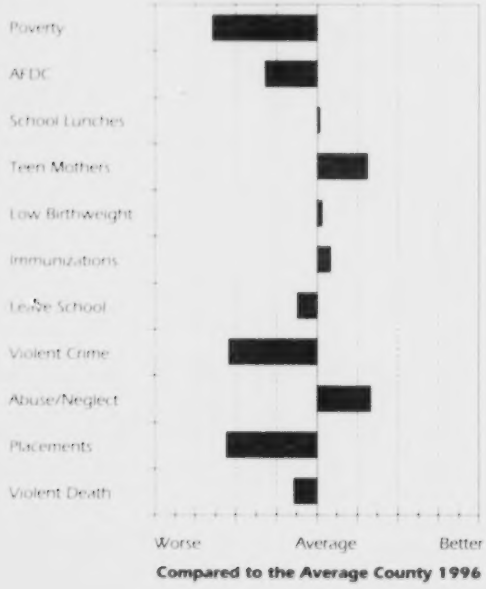
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	43,392
Estimated number of children, 1996	12,157
Estimated % children, 1996	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,729
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.7%
Projected population, 2000	39,180

Itasca County is located in the central section of northern Minnesota. Portions of Leech Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. It is the nineteenth largest county in the state. Its per capita personal income of $16,942 ranks in the lower third of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The county experienced an 82% growth in the mining industry, making it the fasting growing industry in 1995.

The percentage of violent crimes committed by children increased greatly in Itasca County between 1994 and 1996. Itasca also has a higher-than-average percentage of children in out-of-home placements. The percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch decreased in 1996. Itasca County had a lower rate of children born to teenage mothers between 1993 and 1996 in comparison with the average county. There was also a lower-than-average number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Itasca County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,794	*23.9%*	2,733	*22.1%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	1,547	*13.2%*	1,577	*13.2%*	1,211	*10.0%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	3,184	*37.7%*	3,042	*35.3%*	2,619	*30.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	22		11		19	*12.8* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	29	*6.1%*	23	*4.9%*	21	*4.9%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			249	*44.4%*	176	*31.4%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	152	*3.9%*	112	*2.7%*	134	*3.1%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*10.0%*	15	*54.0%*	17	*48.6%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	24		36		55		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	206		273		247		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		4		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Jackson

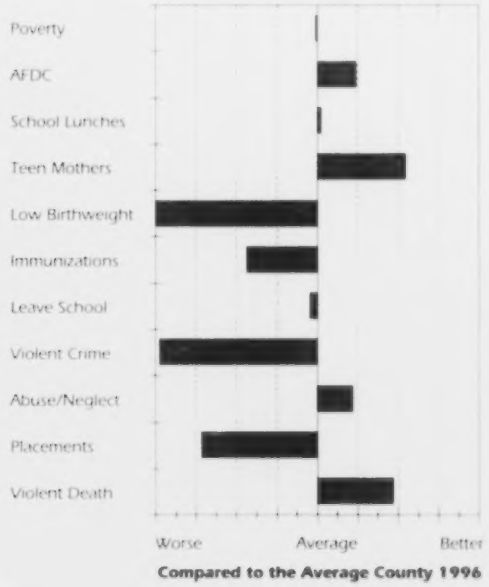
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	11,718
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,126
Estimated % children, 1996	26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,201
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-2.3%
Projected population, 2000	10,370

Jackson County is a relatively small county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1995 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The largest increase in industry was in durable goods manufacturing. Jackson County's per capita personal income of $17,168 ranked relatively low in comparison with other counties in Minnesota.

Out-of-home placements steadily increased in Jackson County between 1991 and 1996, and Jackson County has a higher proportion of out-of-home placements than the average county. There was also a significant increase in children born at low birth weight in 1996. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect rose in 1996, although it was still low in comparison to the average county. Like most other counties, Jackson experienced a drop in the number of children receiving AFDC.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Jackson County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	735	23.0%	505	15.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	255	8.0%	247	7.7%	156	5.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	693	31.4%	817	36.6%	605	30.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		3		3	9.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	3.9%	6	4.9%	11	8.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			53	31.9%	58	38.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	7	0.8%	11	1.2%	27	2.8% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	14.3%	0		2	66.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	12		8		17		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	29		42		70		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Kanabec

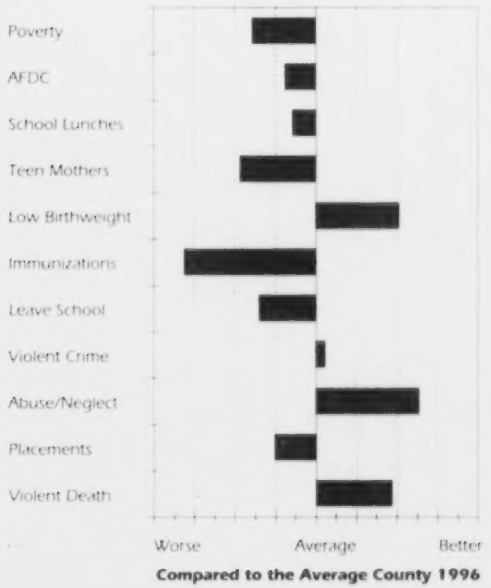
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	13,838
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,144
Estimated % children, 1996	29.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,930
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	5.4%
Projected population, 2000	13,340

Kanabec County is located in east central Minnesota and ranks within the bottom third of Minnesota counties in size. In 1995, Kanabec had a per capita personal income of $15,999, which was the ninth lowest in the state. The largest industries in the county were retail, state and local government, and construction. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased by 16% between 1994 and 1995.

Kanabec County experienced a drop in the number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in 1996, and this number was lower than the average county. The percentage of children receiving AFDC, as well as the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch, steadily decreased, although these numbers were still slightly high in comparison with the average county. The percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two dropped between 1992 and 1995, but was still worse than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kanabec County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	890	22.6%	812	19.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	383	9.8%	420	10.5%	364	8.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	876	34.2%	918	34.6%	964	33.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		12		3	24.5 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	15	10.2%	6	3.8%	5	3.4%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			90	47.9%	84	43.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	42	3.8%	47	3.9%	54	4.0% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	12.5%	4	21.0%	4	23.5% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	9		12		8		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	24		32		67		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Kandiyohi

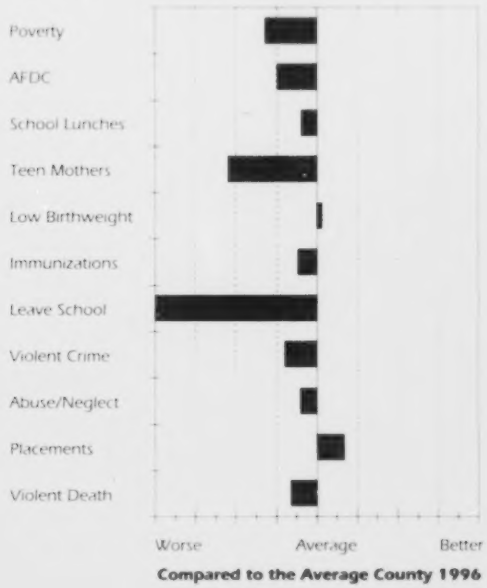
Kandiyohi County is located in west central Minnesota and is the twenty-first largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. In 1995, the largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail trade. The fastest growing industry was non-durable goods manufacturing. In 1995, Kandiyohi County had a per capita personal income of $19,612, which ranked twenty-sixth in the state.

The number of children in out-of-home placements dropped in 1996, making this number lower than the average county. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect rose steadily between 1993 and 1996 and was slightly higher than the average county. The rate of children being born to teenage mothers in 1993-95 was relatively high compared to the average county, as was the percentage of children dropping out of school.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	41,324
Estimated number of children, 1996	11,767
Estimated % children, 1996	28.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,922
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.3%
Projected population, 2000	40,560

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kandiyohi County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,014	18.0%	2,213	18.7%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,270	10.7%	1,429	11.6%	1,089	9.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,409	32.8%	2,548	30.5%	2,195	32.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	22		31		19	25.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	20	3.7%	20	3.4%	26	4.9%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			224	35.7%	194	34.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	158	5.1%	207	6.2%	217	6.8% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	17	34.0%	26	39.0%	26	34.2% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	77		69		96		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	148		183		124		17,508	
Children dying violently	6		1		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Kittson

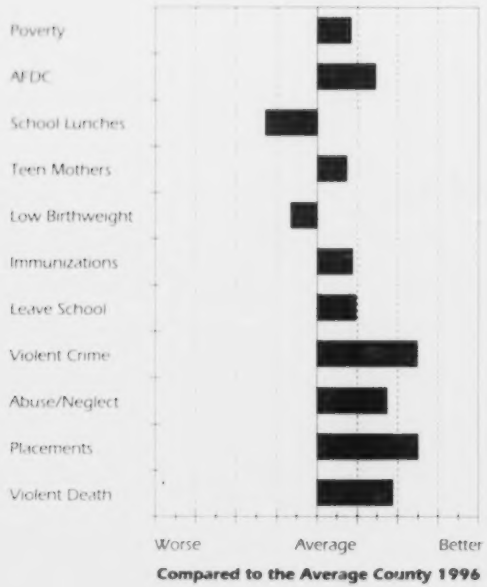
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996 5,419
Estimated number of children, 1996 1,372
Estimated % children, 1996 ..... 25.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991 1,506
% change in number of children, 1991-1996 ..... -8.9%
Projected population, 2000 5,180

Kittson County is in the northwest corner of Minnesota, bordering North Dakota and Canada. It is the fifth smallest county in Minnesota. The county's largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and retail trade. The retail trade industry increased the most between 1994 and 1995. Kittson County's per capita personal income of $18,384 ranked within the middle third of Minnesota counties.

Kittson County fared well on many of the child well-being indicators. In 1996, the county continued to have better-than-average rates of children receiving AFDC, substantiated reports of abuse and neglect, and number of children in out-of-home placements. There was an increase in the percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price lunch in 1996. This percentage is slightly higher than the average county. The percentage of children born at low birth weight decreased in 1996, although it is still slightly higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Kittson County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	239	*15.4%*	194	*13%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	62	*4.1%*	56	*3.9%*	54	*3.9%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	385	*33.5%*	417	*35.6%*	430	*37.5%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		2		2	*14.7* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.9%*	3	*5.0%*	3	*5.6%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			25	*26.0%*	21	*29.6%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	2	*0.4%*	3	*0.6%*	10	*1.8%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	1		5		5		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	4		8		6		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Koochiching

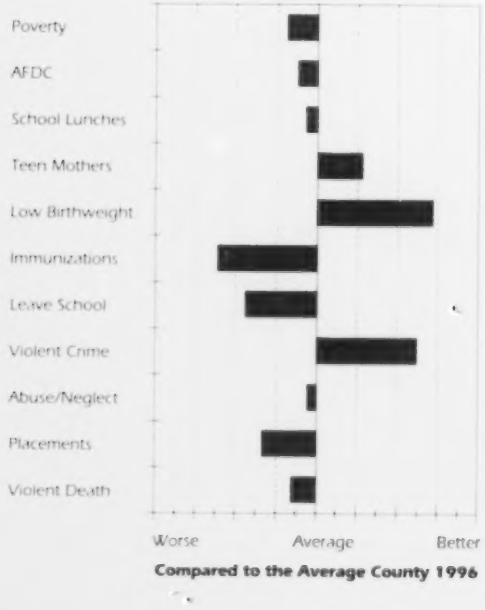
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	15,858
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,997
Estimated % children, 1996	25.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,191
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.6%
Projected population, 2000	15,000

Koochiching County is a mid-sized county located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. Most of the Nett Lake Indian Reservation lies within the county. In 1995, Koochiching had a per capita personal income of $16,194, the twelfth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing.

Koochiching County continued to have a very low percentage of children born at low birth weight in 1996. The county had significantly lower-than-average rates of low birth weight children for six years in a row. Another positive indicator is that no teenagers were arrested for violent crime in 1996. Substantiated reports of abuse and neglect steadily rose between 1993 and 1996, and this number was slightly higher than the average county. Koochiching County children were much less likely to be fully immunized by age two than children in the average Minnesota county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Koochiching County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	902	21.2%	729	17.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	383	9.2%	398	9.6%	327	8.2%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	663	26.0%	677	26.5%	796	32.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	7		6		4	13.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	8	3.8%	10	5.2%	4	2.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			79	45.7%	94	40.5%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	33	2.5%	39	2.9%	57	4.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	6.7%	0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	25		17		31		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		77		69		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Lac qui Parle

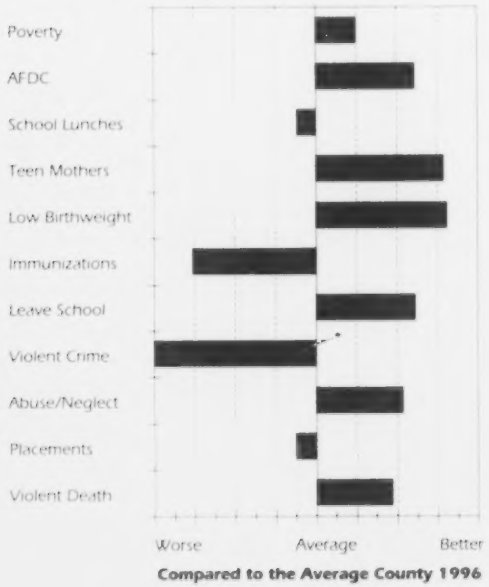
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	8,228
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,137
Estimated % children, 1996	26.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,326
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-8.1%
Projected population, 2000	7,730

Lac Qui Parle County is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border next to the Minnesota River. It is the twelfth smallest county in the state. Its 1995 per capita personal income of $16,700 ranked within the bottom third of Minnesota, and significantly decreased from 1994. The county's largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The transportation and public utilities industry showed the largest increase between 1994 and 1995, increasing at a rate of 86.3%.

After a sharp increase in substantiated reports of abuse and neglect in 1994, this number was once again very low in 1996. Lac Qui Parle also had a very low rate of children being born to teenage mothers in 1993-95, and children born at low birth weight in 1996. The percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two, and the percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price school lunch, are two indicators that were higher than the average county in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lac qui Parle County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	320	*13.3%*	297	*12.8%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	60	*2.6%*	65	*2.9%*	37	*1.7%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	599	*32.9%*	656	*35.5%*	704	*33.3%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		1		1	*5.6 (a)*	2,019	*31.0 (a)*
Children born at low birth weight	1	*1.0%*	3	*3.2%*	2	*2.4%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			36	*34.3%*	37	*42.5%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	1	*0.1%*	8	*0.8%*	4	*0.4% (c)*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		1	*100.0% (c)*	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	4		2		6		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	15		23		31		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Lake

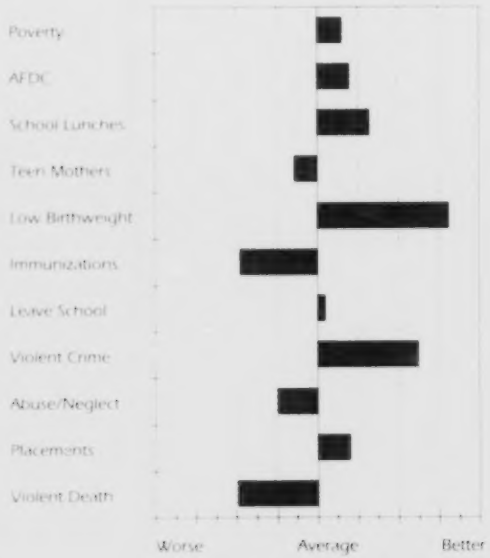
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	10,707
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,566
Estimated % children, 1996	24.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,542
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	0.9%
Projected population, 2000	9,640

Lake County is located in northeastern Minnesota on the North Shore of Lake Superior. It is the eighteenth smallest county in Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $17,752 ranks slightly lower than average in comparison with other Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, services, and mining. The fastest growing industry was durable goods manufacturing, which increased almost 16% between 1994 and 1995.

There was a significant decrease in the number of children born at low birth weight between 1995 and 1996. The percentage of children receiving AFDC steadily decreased between 1991 and 1996, and this number was lower than the average county. Lake County also had a lower-than-average percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch. The number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect increased between 1994 and 1996 and is slightly higher than the average county. Another area of concern may be the increase in the percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two between 1992 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	329	12.9%	364	13.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	215	8.5%	197	7.7%	138	5.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	586	26.8%	729	32.7%	554	24.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		2		2	19.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	4.2%	2	2.1%	2	2.4%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			61	36.7%	55	38.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	11	1.1%	21	2.0%	25	2.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		3	25.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	12		19		24		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	37		31		26		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Lake of the Woods

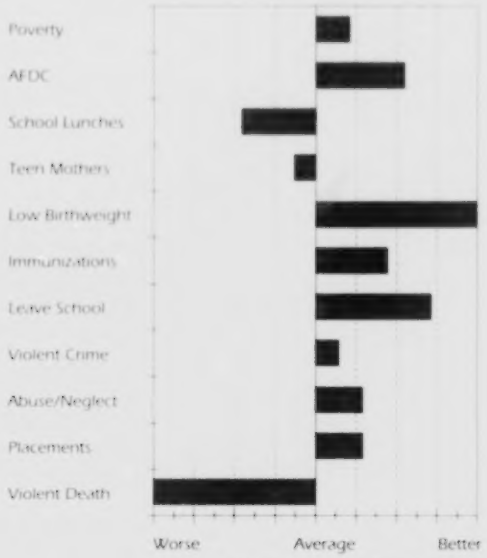
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	4,598
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,238
Estimated % children, 1996	26.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,177
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	5.2%
Projected population, 2000	4,310

Lake of the Woods County is located in northern Minnesota on the Canadian border. It is the third smallest county in Minnesota. Portions of the Red Lake Indian Reservation are located in the county. In 1995, Lake of the Woods County had a per capita personal income of $17,856, which is within the middle third of all counties in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry from 1994 to 1995 was transportation and public utilities which increased by 8.5%.

Lake of the Woods County continued to do well on several child well-being indicators. The percentage of children receiving AFDC dropped significantly between 1993 and 1996, and was much lower than the average county. The county also had a dramatic decrease in the percentage of children not fully immunized by the age of two. The percentage of children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch was higher than the average county, indicating a significant number of low-income children within the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lake of the Woods County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics*								
Children living below the poverty line	216	*18.5%*	163	*13.2%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	59	*5.0%*	60	*5.1%*	28	*2.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	316	*41.4%*	360	*44.0%*	350	*42.3%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		1		1	*19.5* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	4	*7.0%*	2	*3.5%*	0	*0.0%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			37	*56.9%*	16	*26.7%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	7	*2.3%*	11	*3.2%*	0	(c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		1	*20.0%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	4		8		6		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	13		8		11		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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LeSueur

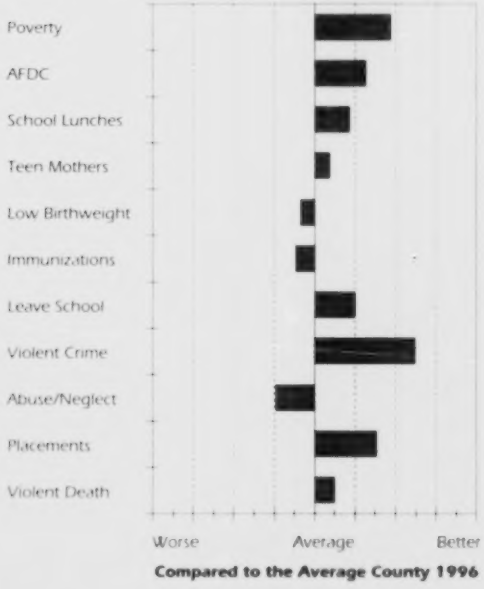
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	24,715
Estimated number of children, 1996	7,208
Estimated % children, 1996	29.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,971
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.4%
Projected population, 2000	23,420

Le Sueur County is a moderate-sized county in south central Minnesota. Le Sueur County's 1995 per capita personal income of $19,747 ranks twenty-third in the state. The largest industries in the county were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. Non-durable goods manufacturing was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at 27% from 1994 to 1995.

Children in Le Sueur County rank quite close to the average county on most of the indicators of child well-being. The percentage of children receiving AFDC steadily decreased between 1993 and 1996, and continued to be lower than the average county in 1996. Substantiated reports of abuse and neglect increased from 1994, and is slightly high in comparison to other Minnesota counties. Another area of concern may be the increase in the percentage of children born at low birth weight between 1993 and 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in LeSueur County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	824	*11.9%*	767	*10.5%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	346	*5.0%*	369	*5.2%*	313	*4.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,029	*23.0%*	1,425	*25.6%*	1,422	*26.4%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	9		9		12	*16.1* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	20	*6.2%*	9	*2.9%*	17	*5.3%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			120	*38.7%*	111	*34.0%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	25	*1.3%*	31	*1.3%*	44	*1.7%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*20.0%*	1	*13.0%*	0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	44		56		67		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	41		73		55		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		4		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Lincoln

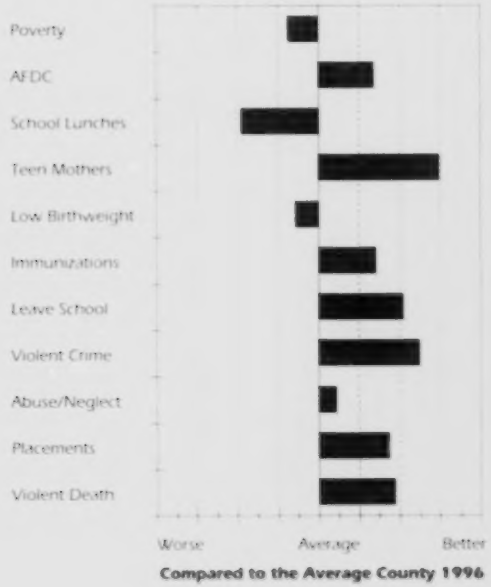
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	6,687
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,719
Estimated % children, 1996	25.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,789
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.9%
Projected population, 2000	6,080

Lincoln County, the eighth smallest county in the state, is located in southwestern Minnesota on the South Dakota border. Its 1995 per capita personal income of $15,527 was the sixth lowest in the state, decreasing at a rate of 7.7% from 1994. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and transportation and public utilities. Transportation and public utilities was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of almost 20% in 1995.

Lincoln County fared well on most indicators of child well-being. Lincoln County had a low rate of children being born to teenage mothers in 1993-95. Lincoln County also has a lower-than-average rate of children who are not fully immunized by the age of two. A positive trend in Lincoln County is that there were no children arrested for violent crime between 1991 and 1996. A higher-than-average rate of students receiving free or reduced-price school lunch indicates a higher-than-average proportion of low-income students in the county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lincoln County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	419	23.2%	312	17.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North, 1991, 1993)	635	5.7%	684	6.1%	71	4.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	428	38.4%	475	42.0%	438	40.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		1		2	6.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	1	1.5%	4	5.8%	5	5.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			16	31.4%	12	27.9%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	0.8%	5	0.7%	5	0.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	8		18		11		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	8		8		12		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Lyon

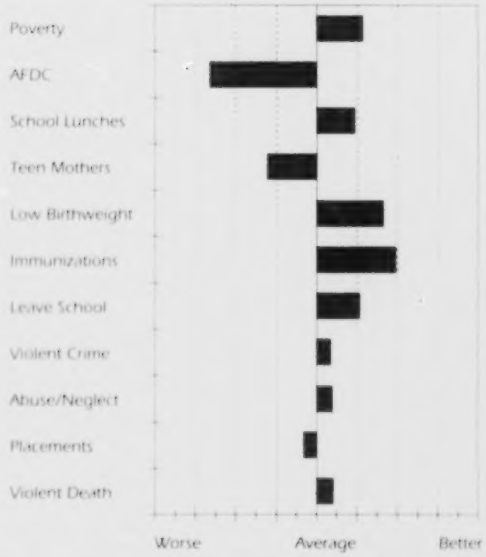
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	24,791
Estimated number of children, 1996	6,783
Estimated % children, 1996	27.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,835
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.8%
Projected population, 2000	24,680

Lyon County is a mid-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota. In 1995, Lyon County had a per capita personal income of $20,205, which ranked nineteenth in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The construction industry increased income for the people of Lyon County by almost 11% between 1994 and 1995.

Lyon County saw a significant drop in the number of children not fully immunized by the age of two between 1992 and 1995. Lyon County also had a lower-than-average number of substantiated reports of abuse and neglect. This number significantly decreased in 1996. Lyon County had a higher-than-average rate of children born to teenage mothers and children receiving AFDC. Despite the decrease in the percentage of children receiving AFDC in most other counties, this number rose sharply in Lyon County in 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Lyon County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	940	13.7%	881	12.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North, 1991, 1993)	635	5.7%	684	6.1%	878	12.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,513	28.0%	1,519	27.9%	1,456	25.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	8		9		8	22.1 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	4	1.1%	15	4.0%	12	3.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			208	48.7%	111	26.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	38	1.6%	27	1.1%	44	1.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4	25.0%	4	20.0%	2	22.2% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	41		86		44		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	105		86		94		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		6		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

McLeod

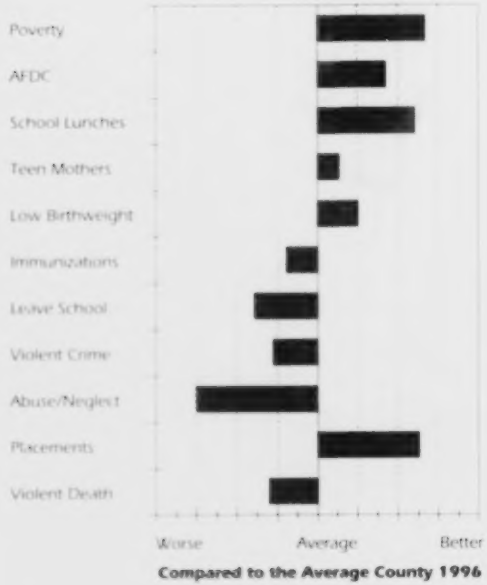
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	33,636
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,650
Estimated % children, 1996	28.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,489
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.7%
Projected population, 2000	33,780

McLeod County is located in the south central portion of the state and is the twenty-fifth largest county. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The county's largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, non-durable goods manufacturing and state and local government. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 13% from 1994 to 1995. McLeod County's per capita personal income was $21,969, the eighth largest in the state.

Children in McLeod County generally did better than children in the average Minnesota county on most measures of child well-being. The county had a much higher-than-average rate of substantiated child abuse and neglect reports, which have increased since 1991. The rate of children in out-of-home placements was significantly lower than the average county, however.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in McLeod County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	780	*8.3%*	828	*8.4%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	335	*3.5%*	360	*3.7%*	324	*3.4%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	857	*17.3%*	1,092	*19.5%*	1,039	*18.3%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	7		5		13	*15.4* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	13	*2.8%*	20	*4.5%*	18	*4.2%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			211	*35.5%*	188	*35.0%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	77	*2.8%*	34	*1.1%*	126	*4.1%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	11	37.9%	9	30.0%	16	37.2% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	113		123		131		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	55		55		42		17,508	
Children dying violently	4		0		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Mahnomen

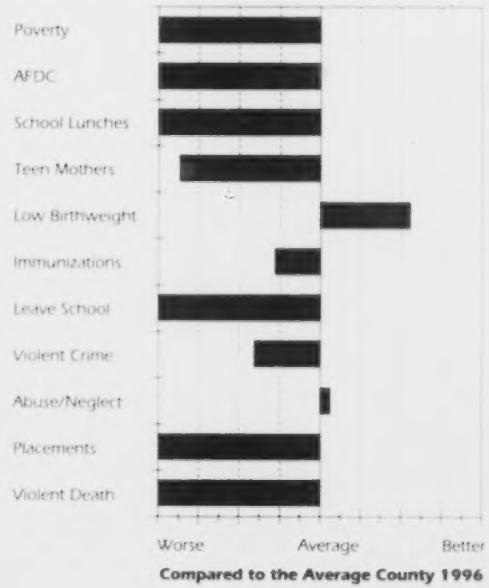
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	5,144
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,630
Estimated % children, 1996	31.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,587
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	2.7%
Projected population, 2000	4,950

Mahnomen County is located in northwestern Minnesota and is the fifth smallest county in the state. Much of the White Earth Indian Reservation is located in the county. The county's 1995 personal per capita income was $13,611, the lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and finance, insurance and real estate, which also was the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 235% between 1994 and 1995.

Children in Mahnomen County were less likely to be born with low birth weight in 1996 than children in the average Minnesota county. Mahnomen County saw an increase over time in the number of children in out-of-home placements as well as an increase in the percentage of children receiving AFDC, contrary to the statewide trend.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mahnomen County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	556	35.3%	442	26.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	295	18.6%	252	15.6%	311	19.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,109	66.6%	1,143	66.4%	1,154	66.1%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		3		6	30.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	4.8%	3	3.9%	3	3.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			24	41.4%	35	36.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	6	0.8%	55	7.4%	72	9.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		3	42.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	29		23		11		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	59		56		81		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Marshall

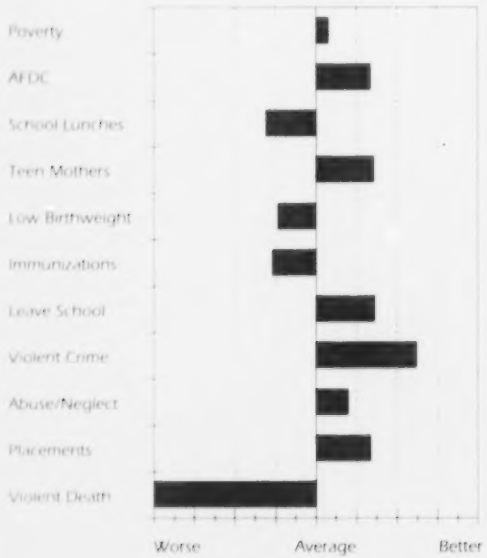
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	10,563
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,022
Estimated % children, 1996	28.6%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,185
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-5.1%
Projected population, 2000	9,910

Marshall County is a moderately small county located along the North Dakota border in the northwest corner of the state. During the summer months, the population of Marshall County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Marshall County's per capita personal income of $16,569 ranks within the bottom third of the state. The largest industries in the county were state and local government, services, and retail. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry, increasing by almost 15% between 1994 and 1995.

Children in Marshall County were much less likely to be born at low birth weight than were children in the average county. Marshall County also had a very low percentage of violent crimes committed by children. The county's high rate of violent deaths probably does not reflect a long-term trend since the actual number of deaths is quite small.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Marshall County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	564	*17.4%*	461	*14.6%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	146	*4.6%*	163	*5.2%*	125	*4.1%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	987	*40.8%*	935	*38.6%*	728	*37.3%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		1		4	*12.1* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	9	*6.8%*	5	*4.3%*	7	*5.8%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			65	*37.8%*	49	*36.0%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	6	*0.5%*	15	*1.3%*	13	*1.3%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	12		43		17		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	16		20		25		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Martin

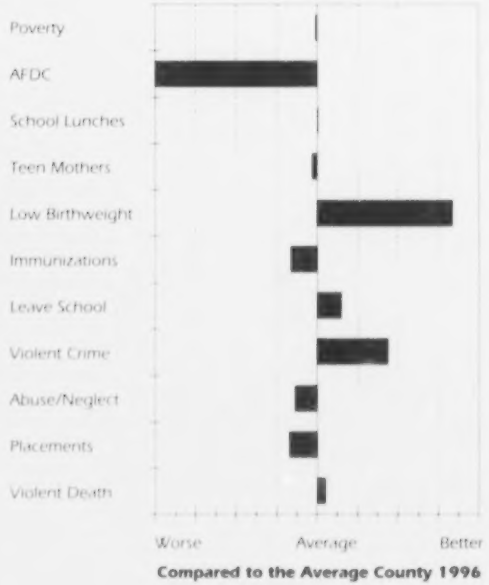
Martin County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in Martin County were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. In 1995, Martin County had a per capita personal income of $20,144, ranking twentieth among Minnesota counties. The fastest growing industry between 1994 and 1995 was durable goods manufacturing, which increased 13.7%.

Martin County children generally fared close to the average county on many measures of child well being. Children in Martin County had very low rates of dropping out of school and children born at low birth weight. The number of children in out-of-home placements in the county has increased from 1991 to 1996.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	22,462
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,911
Estimated % children, 1996	26.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,173
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.2%
Projected population, 2000	21,480

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Martin County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	820	*13.2%*	953	*15.5%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC (Faribault/Martin, 1991, 1993)	888	8.3%	820	7.7%	1,181	20.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,387	*31.0%*	1,452	*32.1%*	1,338	*30.8%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	12		9		9	*18.0* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	13	*4.4%*	12	*4.4%*	5	*2.3%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			108	*33.0%*	107	*34.6%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	24	*1.2%*	31	*1.5%*	47	*2.1%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		1	*7.7%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	28		56		50		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	59		71		89		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Meeker

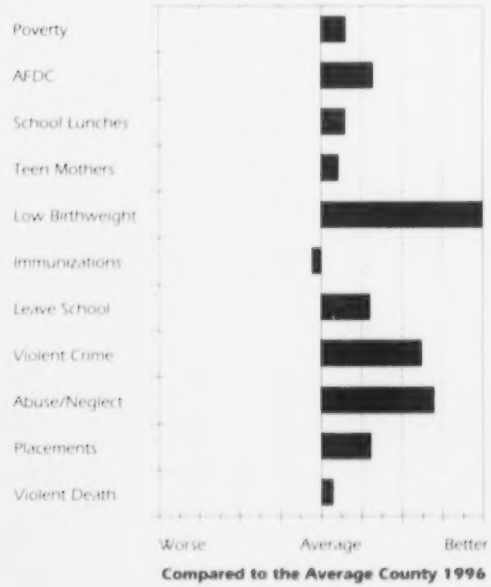
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	21,463
Estimated number of children, 1996	6,230
Estimated % children, 1996	29.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,279
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.8%
Projected population, 2000	20,840

Meeker County is a moderate-sized county in central Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Durable goods manufacturing was also the fastest growing industry, increasing by 16%. The 1995 per capita personal income in Meeker County was $17,379, placing it within the middle third of Minnesota counties.

In 1996, children in Meeker County fared better than children in the average Minnesota county on most measures of child well being. Meeker County improved the rate of two-year-olds who were fully immunized between 1992 and 1995, and had a very low rate of children born at low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Meeker County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	974	*15.6%*	883	*13.8%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	378	*6.0%*	382	*6.1%*	268	*4.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,578	*27.1%*	1,731	*29.5%*	1,779	*27.8%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		10		8	*15.9* (a)	2,619	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	7	*2.6%*	13	*5.0%*	4	*1.4%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			142	*41.4%*	94	33.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	31	*1.2%*	28	*1.0%*	47	*1.5%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	11		19		9		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	54		49		54		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Mille Lacs

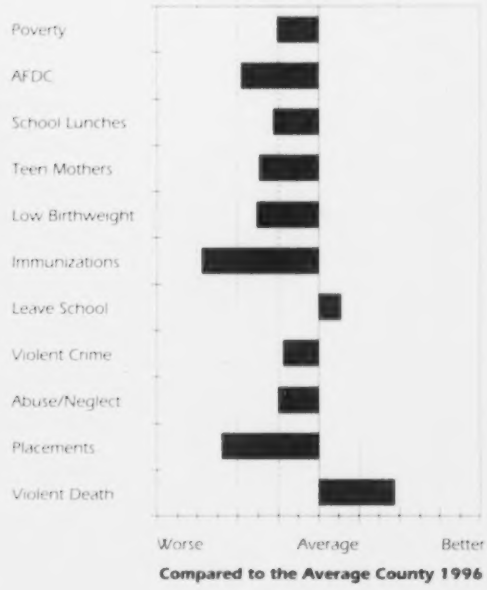
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	20,312
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,864
Estimated % children, 1996	28.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,584
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	5.0%
Projected population, 2000	19,030

Mille Lacs County is a mid-sized county located in east central Minnesota. The county also includes the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation. Its per capita income of $16,825 ranks within the bottom third of the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The service industry was also the fastest growing.

Mille Lacs County children fared close to the average county or somewhat below on most indicators of child well-being. The number of families receiving AFDC also continued to increase, possibly due to the fact that because Mille Lacs is an MFIP demonstration county, recipients remained on the program longer as they returned to the workforce. Mille Lacs also had a higher-than-average rate of births to teens, low birth weight babies, and children not fully immunized by age two.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mille Lacs County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	861	*15.7%*	1,050	*18.0%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	580	*10.4%*	575	*10.1%*	663	*11.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,009	*34.6%*	2,237	*36.3%*	2,282	*36.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	14		8		21	*22.9 (a)*	2,019	*31.0 (a)*
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.4%*	21	*8.0%*	17	*6.3%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			232	*48.8%*	200	*41.9%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	42	*1.6%*	51	*1.8%*	63	*2.2% (c)*	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	5	*26.3%*	3	*18.0%*	7	*35.0% (c)*	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	84		49		55		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	98		109		122		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Morrison

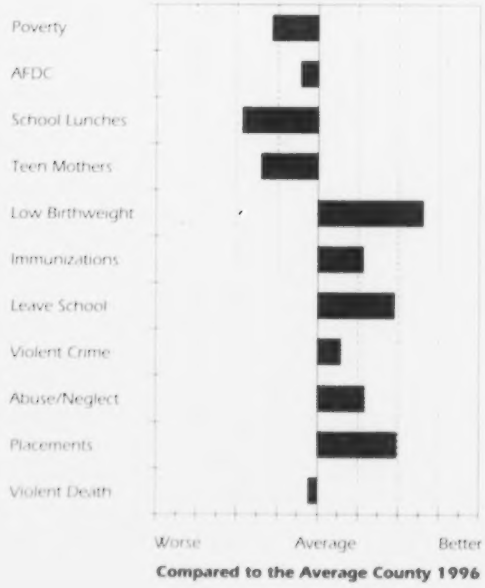
Morrison County, located in central Minnesota, was the thirtieth largest county in Minnesota. Its 1995 per capita personal income was $15,388, the fourth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities, which increased by 22.3% between 1994 and 1995.

Morrison County had a lower percentage of children born at low birth weight than the average county. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect and the rate of children in out-of-home placements were both lower than the average county. The teen birth rate in 1993-95 was higher than the average county as was the percentage of students receiving free or reduced price school lunch.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	30,528
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,477
Estimated % children, 1996	31.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,333
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	29,720

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Morrison County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,204	23.3%	1,783	18.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	691	7.4%	653	7.0%	766	8.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	3,063	44.5%	3,109	44.4%	2,781	40.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	8		16		11	22.8 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	13	3.1%	13	3.2%	12	2.9%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			185	36.8%	144	28.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	36	1.2%	27	0.8%	28	0.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	9.1%	4	40.0%	2	20.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	45		37		46		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	61		36		59		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		2		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Mower

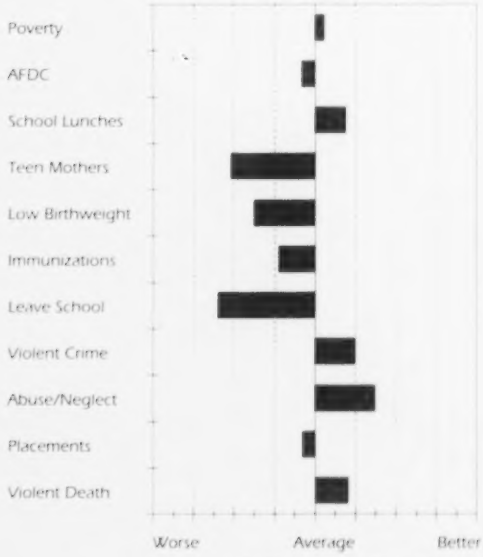
Mower County is located in southeastern Minnesota on the Iowa border. It is the twenty-third largest county in the state. Its 1995 per capita personal income of $21,889 was the tenth largest in Minnesota. In Mower County, the largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Non-durable goods was the fastest growing sector between 1994 and 1995.

Mower County had a relatively low percentage of violent crimes committed by children in 1995. The county had a teen birth rate that was higher than the average Minnesota county, and an increasing number of children born at low birth weight. Mower County had a lower-than-average rate of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect and a higher-than-average dropout rate.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	37,151
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,410
Estimated % children, 1996	25.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,685
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-2.8%
Projected population, 2000	36,570

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Mower County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,548	16.1%	1,449	14.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	895	9.3%	942	9.7%	738	7.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,677	26.5%	1,686	28.0%	1,823	27.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	26		18		11	25.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	26	5.0%	24	5.3%	25	6.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			180	37.0%	171	35.4%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	95	3.5%	112	3.9%	148	4.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	7.9%	3	8.0%	4	15.4% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	54		43		39		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	96		81		130		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

146

147

Murray

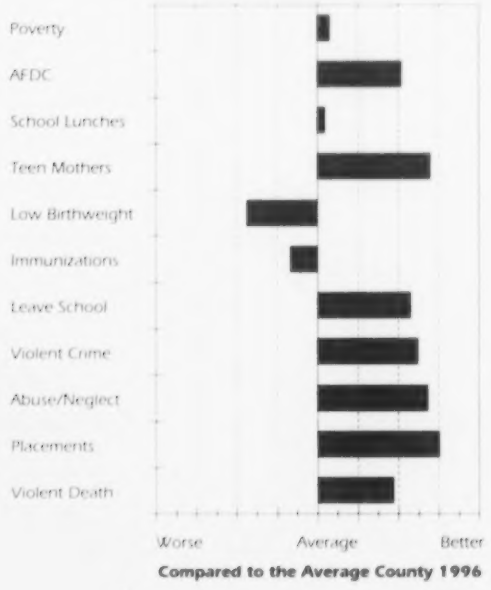
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996 9,609
Estimated number of children, 1996 2,569
Estimated % children, 1996 ..... 26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991 2,633
% change in number of children, 1991-1996 ..... -2.4%
Projected population, 2000 8,600

Murray County is located in the southwestern corner of Minnesota. It is the thirteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were construction, services, and state and local government. The non-durable transportation and public utilities industry increased by 17.3% between 1994 and 1995. Murray County had a per capita personal income of $17,097 in 1995, decreasing from 1994.

Children in Murray County fared better than children in the average Minnesota county on most indicators of child well-being. However, the percentage of children born at low birth weight increased over time, resulting in a rate that was worse than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Murray County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	421	15.7%	393	14.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC (Region VIII North, 1991, 1993)	635	5.7%	684	6.1%	66	2.6%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	415	28.1%	520	32.5%	503	29.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		2		4	6.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	2.3%	4	3.7%	6	6.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			53	41.1%	41	34.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	2	0.3%	0		4	0.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	8		13		4		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	16		12		7		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Nicollet

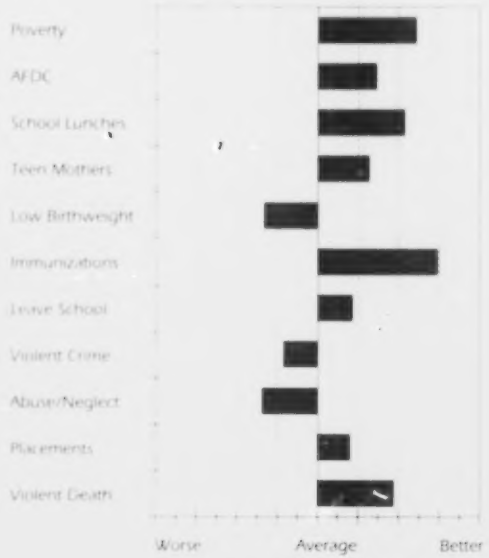
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	29,846
Estimated number of children, 1996	7,790
Estimated % children, 1996	26.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,517
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.6%
Projected population, 2000	28,890

Nicollet County, located along the Minnesota River in south central Minnesota, is the thirty-third largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. The fastest growing industry was non-durable goods manufacturing. Nicollet County's per capita personal income of $20,045 ranked twenty-first in the state.

Children in Nicollet County did better than children in the average Minnesota county on many indicators of child well-being. The rate of immunizations for two-year-olds improved, resulting in a rate much better than the average county's. The percentage of violent crimes committed by children increased from 1991 to 1996.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nicollet County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	981	13.2%	725	9.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	361	4.8%	370	4.7%	305	3.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	582	23.1%	630	23.4%	552	19.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		7		6	12.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	18	4.8%	17	5.0%	19	6.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			71	33.2%	45	22.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	20	1.8%	19	1.6%	24	1.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	4	26.7%	6	30.0%	9	34.6% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	249		95		79		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	79		111		79		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Nobles

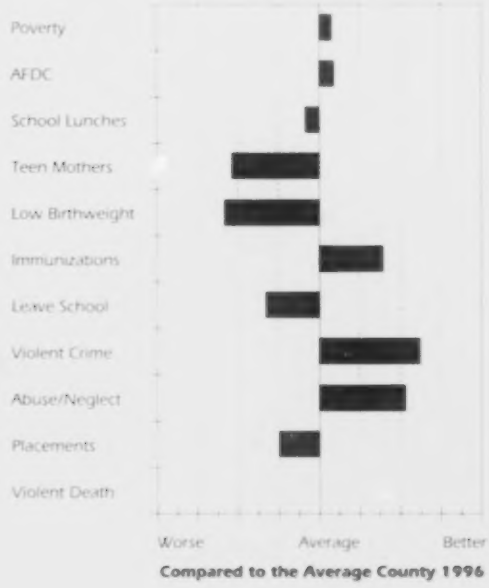
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	20,060
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,259
Estimated % children, 1996	26.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,442
% Change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.4%
Projected population, 2000	19,060

Nobles County is a mid-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota on the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing sector between 1994 and 1995, increasing at a rate of 15.4%. Nobles County's per capita personal income in 1995 was $19,556, which ranked the county twenty-ninth in the state on this measure.

Nobles County did better than the average county at fully immunizing two-year-olds. There were also fewer substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect than in the average county, although the sharp decrease in 1996 may not reflect a long-term trend. The teen birth rate in Nobles County was much higher than the average county's in 1993-95.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Nobles County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	768	*14.1%*	810	*14.6%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	310	*5.7%*	395	*7.2%*	333	*6.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,039	*28.7%*	1,132	*29.2%*	1,332	*32.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		15		12	*25.6* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	13	*4.5%*	14	*5.0%*	19	*6.9%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			89	*32.8%*	77	*27.3%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	56	*3.2%*	49	*2.7%*	75	*3.9%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		10	*48.0%*	0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	49		43		15		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	67		89		85		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Norman

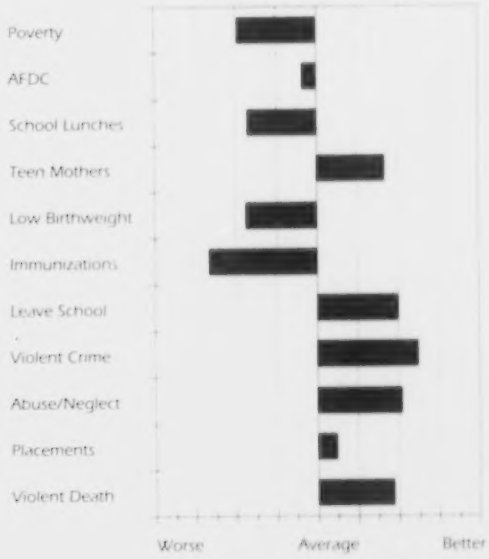
Norman County, the tenth smallest county, is located in northwestern Minnesota along the Red River and North Dakota border. During the summer months, the population of Norman County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Norman County's per capita personal income in 1995 was $17,722, which reflects an increase of 17.4% from 1994. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and retail trade. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 17.6% between 1994 and 1995.

In Norman County, there was a low rate of births to teens in 1993-95. The percentage of violent crime committed by children was also quite low. The percentage of children born at low birth weight was consistently higher than the average county from 1991 through 1996 and the rate of two year-olds not fully immunized was also higher than the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	7,753
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,053
Estimated % children, 1996	26.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,157
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.8%
Projected population, 2000	7,060

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Norman County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	596	27.0%	430	20.4%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	134	6.2%	183	8.6%	162	7.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	651	39.5%	649	40.6%	579	39.7%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		0		2	11.2 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	5.7%	5	5.9%	6	6.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			42	49.4%	42	41.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	0.7%	6	0.8%	6	0.8% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	10		9		6		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	17		33		23		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Olmsted

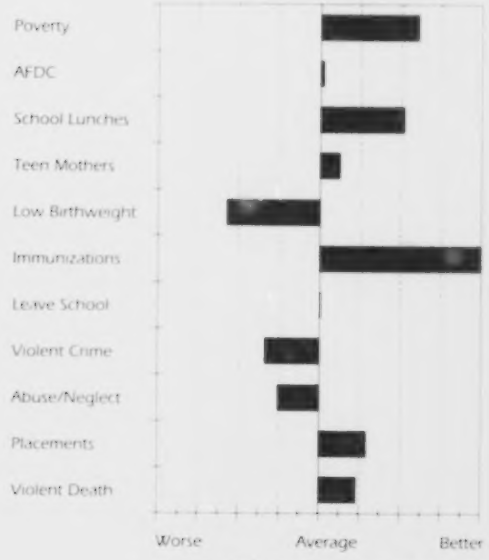
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	113,182
Estimated number of children, 1996	31,100
Estimated % children, 1996	27.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	30,642
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	117,160

Olmsted County in southeastern Minnesota is the eighth largest county in the state. Olmsted County's population includes a significant number of Southeast Asian children. Olmsted County's 1995 per capita income of $24,720 ranked sixth in the state. The largest industries in the county were services, durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. The fastest growing industry was construction.

Children in Olmsted County had a very high rate of full immunization by age two. Olmsted County had a consistent increase in the number of children receiving AFDC, reaching a rate similar to that of the average Minnesota county. The percentage of violent crimes committed by children also increased over time. The county did worse than average in the percentage of children born at low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Olmsted County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,100	7.0%	2,954	9.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,725	5.6%	1,910	6.1%	2,156	6.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	3,381	16.6%	3,599	17.8%	4,253	20.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	29		32		30	15.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	80	4.3%	108	5.9%	113	6.9%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			420	23.5%	324	19.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	208	2.6%	149	1.8%	236	2.6% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	16	25.4%	37	36.0%	67	39.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	158		173		293		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	227		264		276		17,508	
Children dying violently	6		2		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Otter Tail

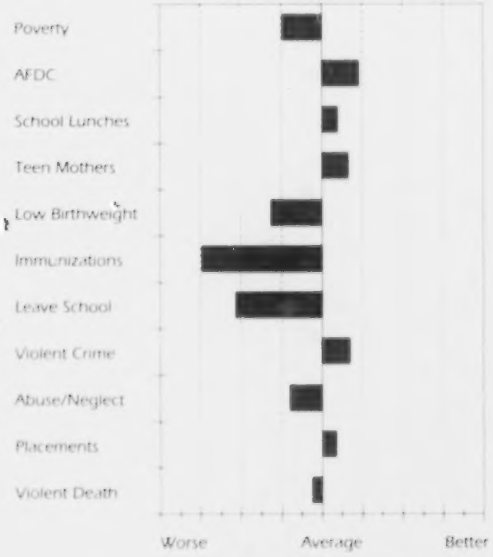
Otter Tail County, located in the west central region of Minnesota, is the thirteenth largest county in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail trade. Durable goods manufacturing increased 20.2% between 1994 and 1995. Otter Tail County's 1995 per capita personal income of $18,227 ranked slightly lower than average in comparison to other Minnesota counties.

Children in Otter Tail County fared near the average Minnesota county in 1996 for many indicators of child well-being. The County had fewer substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect than the average county. Although Otter Tail County improved the percentage of two year-olds who were not fully immunized, its rate was still much lower than the average county's rate.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	53,889
Estimated number of children, 1996	14,074
Estimated % children, 1996	26.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,660
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	3.0%
Projected population, 2000	49,270

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Otter Tail County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,811	20.6%	2,558	17.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	885	6.5%	991	7.2%	719	5.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,828	30.7%	2,949	31.3%	2,828	28.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	11		20		14	15.0 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	33	5.2%	28	4.9%	32	6.0%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			366	53.4%	294	42.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	113	2.8%	106	2.4%	225	4.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	8	17.4%	7	13.0%	11	18.6% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	137		105		126		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	205		200		164		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		2		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Pennington

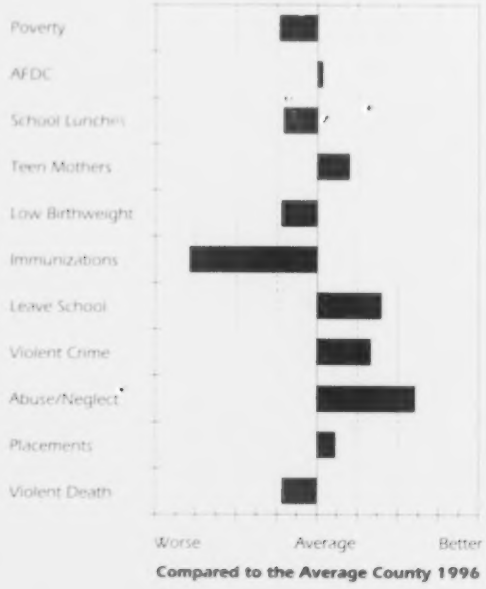
Pennington County is a relatively small county located in northwestern Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing, which was also the fastest growing industry. Its per capita personal income of $19,166 ranked slightly higher than average and increased almost 10% from 1994.

Pennington County had a low number of substantiated child abuse and neglect reports. Pennington County had a lower-than-average rate of fully immunized two-year-olds in 1995. The percentage of children born at low birth weight, while near that of the average Minnesota county, increased between 1991 and 1996.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	13,564
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,625
Estimated % children, 1996	26.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,650
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.7%
Projected population, 2000	13,050

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pennington County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	708	19.2%	658	17.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	409	11.2%	408	11.2%	248	6.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	922	37.4%	872	36.4%	846	35.1%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		5		7	14.5 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	6	4.0%	6	3.7%	11	5.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			78	43.8%	74	42.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	7	0.5%	24	1.7%	16	1.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	12.5%	4	36.0%	3	12.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	8		6		8		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	19		30		41		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		2		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Pine

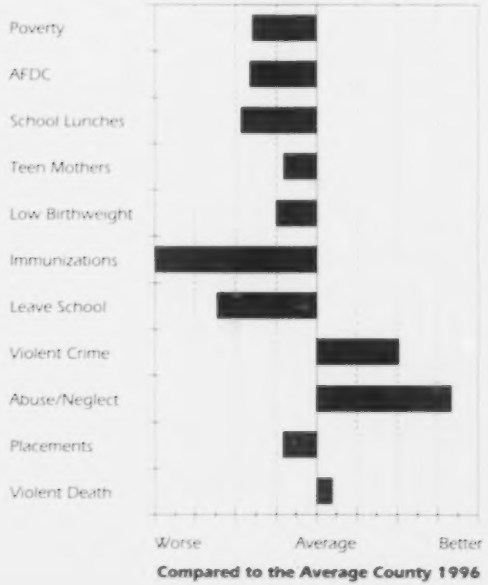
Pine County is a moderate-sized county located in east central Minnesota on the Wisconsin border. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail trade, which increased 11.6% between 1994 and 1995. The county's per capita personal income of $15,680 was the seventh lowest in the state.

The percentage of children receiving AFDC in Pine County decreased slightly from 1995 to 1996, and the percentage of children receiving free and reduced-price school lunch held steady. Both rates were higher than the average Minnesota county. Pine County had a slight improvement in the rate of un-immunized two-year-olds, but that rate was still higher than the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	23,331
Estimated number of children, 1996	6,607
Estimated % children, 1996	28.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	6,160
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	7.3%
Projected population, 2000	22,130

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pine County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,519	25.6%	1,263	19.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	728	11.8%	686	10.8%	709	10.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,732	38.7%	1,829	39.7%	1,846	40.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	17		11		7	20.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	14	5.1%	20	7.6%	15	5.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			145	49.5%	139	45.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	61	2.8%	65	2.8%	116	4.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	11.1%	1	7.0%	1	4.8% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	11		14		2		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	91		87		103		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		3		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Pipestone

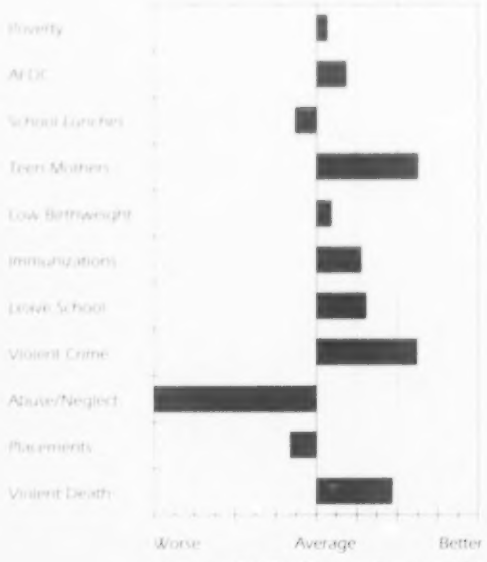
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	10,124
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,814
Estimated % children, 1996	27.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,940
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.3%
Projected population, 2000	9,730

Pipestone County is located in the southwestern corner of the state along the South Dakota border. It's the fifteenth smallest county in Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were retail trade, state and local government, and services. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry between 1994 and 1995. Pipestone County had a per capita personal income of $17,074, ranking within the bottom third of the state.

There was a much lower teenage birth rate in Pipestone County than in the average Minnesota county in 1993-95. Pipestone County also improved its rate of two-year-olds who were not fully immunized between 1992 and 1995. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect continued to increase from 1991 to 1996, resulting in a rate higher than the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pipestone County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	487	*16.6%*	438	*14.7%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	193	*6.6%*	176	*6.0%*	155	*5.5%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	819	*30.8%*	847	*32.2%*	855	*33.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		4		6	*8.1* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	6	*4.1%*	4	*3.4%*	6	*4.7%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			89	*38.4%*	56	*28.9%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	2	*0.2%*	15	*1.8%*	13	*1.5%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	24		45		50		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	54		45		42		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Polk

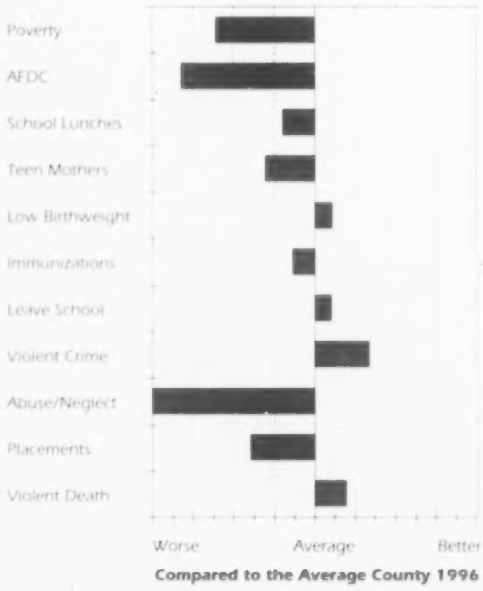
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	32,433
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,050
Estimated % children, 1996	27.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,711
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-6.8%
Projected population, 2000	31,340

Polk County is in northwest Minnesota on the North Dakota border and the Red River. In 1995 it ranked as the twenty-seventh largest county in Minnesota. During the summer months, the county's population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita personal income of $17,682 ranks slightly lower than average among Minnesota counties. The largest industries in the county were services, state and local government, and retail. The fastest growing industry between 1994 and 1995 was durable goods manufacturing.

The number of two-year-olds not fully immunized in Polk County fell between 1992 and 1995 to a rate close to the average county. Children in Polk County are more likely to be poor than children in the average county, and also had a higher-than-average teen birth rate in 1993-95. Substantiated rates of child abuse and neglect continued to be higher than in the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Polk County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,318	*25.0%*	2,044	*21.7%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	1,722	*17.8%*	1,725	*17.6%*	1,302	*14.4%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,329	*35.5%*	2,466	*37.0%*	2,363	*35.0%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	12		11		13	*22.1* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	23	*4.8%*	12	*3.0%*	18	*4.7%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			290	*43.8%*	170	*34.3%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	78	*2.7%*	87	*2.8%*	75	*2.3%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*5.4%*	11	*19.0%*	4	*11.8%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	147		135		211		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	159		135		164		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		2		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Pope

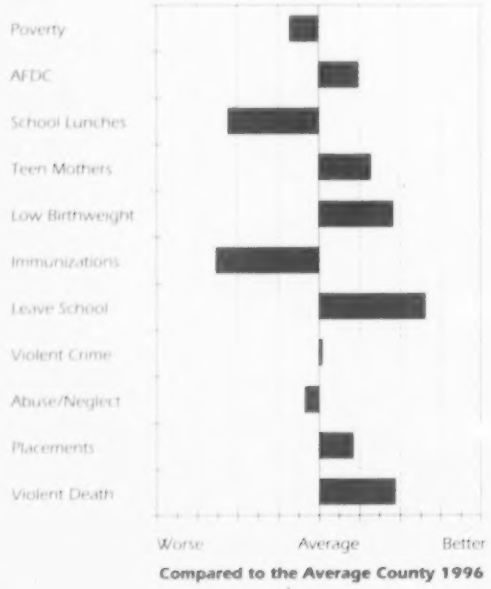
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	11,051
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,995
Estimated % children, 1996	27.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,951
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.5%
Projected population, 2000	10,130

Pope County is a moderately small county in west central Minnesota. Its $16,508 per capita personal income ranked fifteenth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was wholesale trade, which increased almost 24% between 1994 and 1995.

Pope County had a better-than-average rate of births to teens for 1993-1995 and a better-than-average percentage of children born at low birth weight. Children were less likely than children in the average county to receive AFDC, but much more likely to receive free or reduced-price school lunch, indicating a significant number of low-income children in the county. Pope County also had a higher-than-average rate of two-year-olds not fully immunized.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Pope County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	593	19.6%	533	17.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	170	5.8%	210	7.1%	149	5.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	593	32.7%	834	43.6%	808	42.5%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		5		4	12.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	6	4.6%	3	3.1%	4	3.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			62	44.9%	51	40.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	0.7%	2	0.2%	2	0.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	7	43.8%	0		3	25.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	25		28		24		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	20		36		30		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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mn kids count minnesota

Ramsey

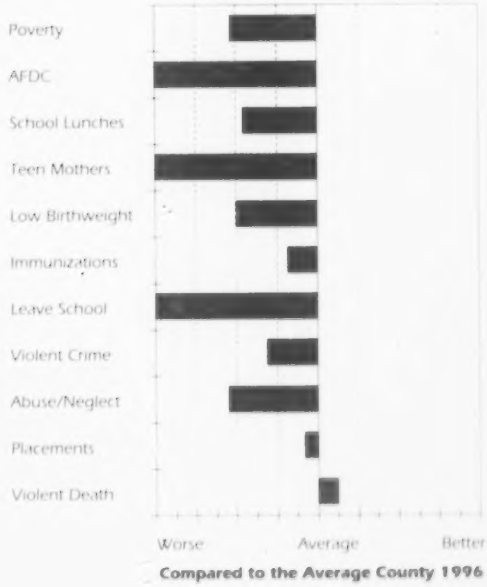
Ramsey County is the second largest county in Minnesota and is part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. Ramsey County is ethnically and racially diverse, with significant numbers of African American, American Indian, Southeast Asian and Chicano/Latino children. The largest industries in 1995 were services, non-durable goods manufacturing, and state and local government. Services was also the fastest growing industry, increasing by 8% between 1994 and 1995. Ramsey county had a per capita personal income of $27,087, the second highest in the state.

Ramsey County improved its rate of un-immunized two year-olds, bringing the 1995 rate to near the average county. In many other areas of child well-being, Ramsey County children did not do as well. The rate of births to teens and the percentage of children dropping out of school were especially high compared to the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	484,484
Estimated number of children, 1996	121,559
Estimated % children, 1996	25.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	126,924
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.2%
Projected population, 2000	512,240

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Ramsey County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	21,392	17.6%	26,055	20.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	20,795	16.4%	24,509	19.1%	24,774	20.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	26,707	35.7%	28,421	35.3%	35,467	40.3%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	320		350		372	38.4 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	485	5.9%	428	5.5%	487	6.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			3,805	46.3%	2,789	34.9%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	1,844	6.4%	2,376	7.4%	2,580	7.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	325	26.5%	394	32.0%	523	38.8% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	1,233		1,350		1,445		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	1,545		1,582		1,684		17,508	
Children dying violently	13		23		17		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Red Lake

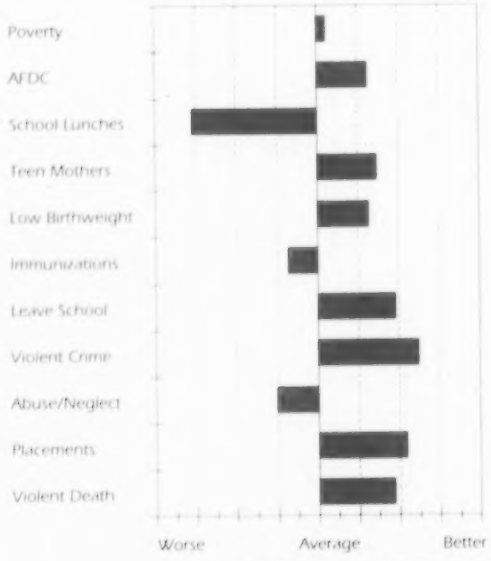
Red Lake County is the second smallest county in the state, and is located in northwestern Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $14,701 was the third lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and transportation and public utilities. Durable goods manufacturing increased by approximately 15% between 1994 and 1995.

Children in Red Lake County fared slightly better or close to the average county on most indicators of child well-being. A relatively high percentage of children received free or reduced-price school lunch since 1991, which indicates the presence of low-income children in the county. The county consistently had no children arrested for violent crimes.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	4,342
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,273
Estimated % children, 1996	29.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,359
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-6.3%
Projected population, 2000	4,040

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Red Lake County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	269	19.4%	203	14.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	69	5.1%	77	5.7%	56	4.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	507	45.0%	531	47.1%	497	46.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		4		0	11.9 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	6.7%	4	7.7%	2	4.0%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			15	23.1%	22	34.9%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	5	0.9%	1	0.2%	5	0.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	3		6		12		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	8		5		7		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Redwood

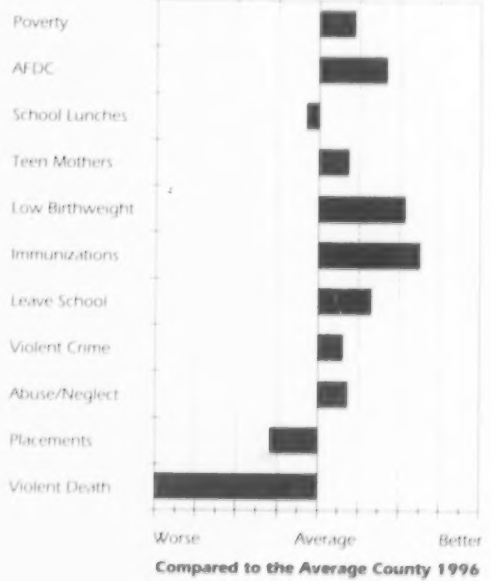
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	16,878
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,677
Estimated % children, 1996	27.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,869
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.9%
Projected population, 2000	15,770

Redwood County is a moderate-sized county located in southwestern Minnesota along the Minnesota River. The Lower Sioux Indian Reservation lies on its border. Its per capita personal income of $19,730 ranked twenty-fourth in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry between 1994 and 1995.

Redwood County children were much less likely to be born at low birth weight than children in the average county in 1996. Redwood County also had a high immunization rate for two-year-olds. The county saw a slight increase from 1994 to 1996 in the percentage of children receiving free or reduced price school lunches. The high rate of violent death in 1996 probably does not reflect a long-term trend, but is a one-year fluctuation.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Redwood County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	741	15.0%	648	13.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	177	3.6%	189	3.9%	160	3.4%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	895	26.7%	1,005	29.9%	1,155	32.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	2		5		1	14.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	2.2%	10	4.6%	6	3.3%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			84	29.0%	76	24.3%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	15	1.0%	6	0.4%	23	1.4% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		7	29.0%	7	19.4% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	23		58		27		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	55		87		78		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Renville

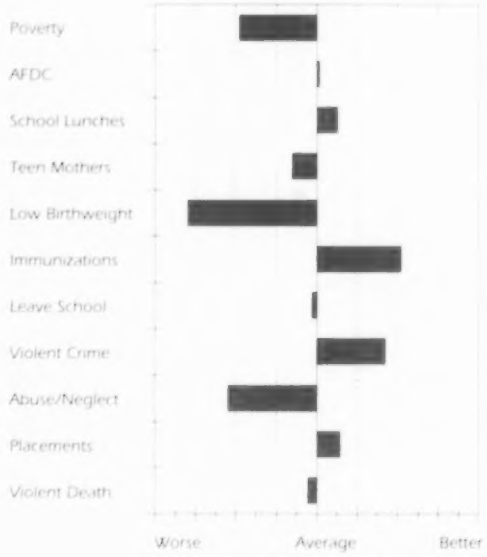
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	17,075
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,701
Estimated % children, 1996	27.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,006
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-6.1%
Projected population, 2000	16,050

Renville County is a moderate-sized county in south central Minnesota. The Upper Sioux Indian Reservation lies along its border. During the summer months, the population includes migrant farmworkers and their children. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods, services, and state and local government. Public utilities and transportation income increased the fastest, at a rate of 17.3%. The county's per capita personal income of $19,568 ranked twenty-eighth in the state.

The percentage of two-year-olds who were not fully immunized decreased in Renville County between 1992 and 1995, resulting in a rate well below the average county. The percentage of low birth weight babies was higher in Renville County than the average county, and increased from 1991 to 1996. There were also an increasing number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Renville County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,013	20.2%	1,003	20.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	277	5.5%	502	10.1%	328	7.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	901	26.8%	1,008	30.7%	862	28.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		7		6	19.7 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	1.4%	5	2.7%	14	7.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			93	32.2%	43	25.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	13	0.9%	15	1.1%	40	2.8% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		1	8.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	28		45		56		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	56		58		51		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		3		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Rice

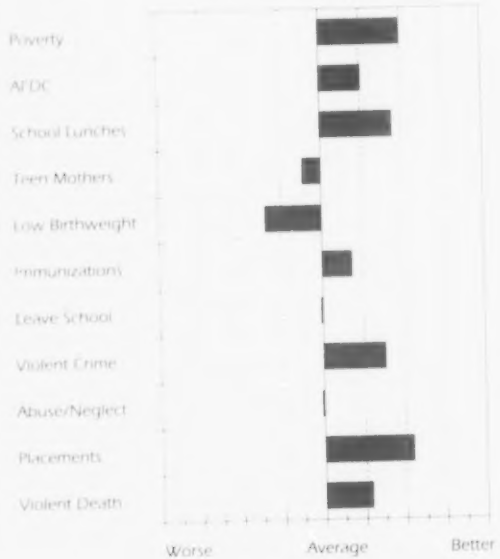
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	52,888
Estimated number of children, 1996	13,710
Estimated % children, 1996	25.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	13,371
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	2.5%
Projected population, 2000	51,650

Rice County is located in the southeast region of Minnesota. During the summer months, the population of Rice County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. It is the fifteenth largest county in the state, and ranked slightly higher than average with its 1995 per capita personal income of $19,130. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Non-durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing by 19%.

Children in Rice County did slightly better than children in the average county on many indicators of child well-being. There was a steady increase over time in the percentage of children born at low birth weight, bringing the county slightly higher than average on that indicator. Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect also increased over time.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rice County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,187	9.2%	1,410	10.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	688	5.2%	789	5.8%	666	4.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,154	25.2%	1,898	21.5%	1,933	21.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	18		27		18	19.1 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	26	4.0%	32	5.4%	41	6.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			238	34.9%	192	30.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	126	3.6%	132	3.2%	106	2.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	6	25.0%	17	41.0%	3	10.0% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	23		94		101		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	121		79		75		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Rock

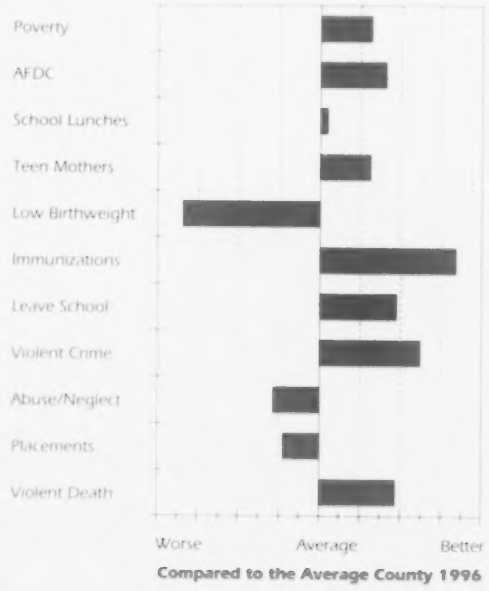
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	9,948
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,789
Estimated % children, 1996	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,784
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	0.2%
Projected population, 2000	9,100

Rock County is the fourteenth smallest county and is located in the southwest corner of Minnesota, bordering South Dakota and Iowa. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Services was the fastest growing industry from 1994 to 1995, increasing at a rate of 30%. Rock County's per capita personal income of $18,706 ranked about average in comparison with the rest of the state.

Children in Rock County fared near or better than average in most indicators of child well-being. The exception was the number of children born at low birth weight which increased in 1996 and was much higher than the average Minnesota county. The number of children in out-of-home placements also increased over time.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Rock County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	365	12.8%	352	12.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	144	5.2%	124	4.5%	98	3.5%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	485	26.2%	526	27.6%	562	29.9%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		1		2	12.8 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	2	1.7%	7	5.7%	9	7.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			43	32.1%	28	21.5%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	10	1.2%	5	0.6%	8	0.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	11		40		27		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	11		29		44		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Roseau

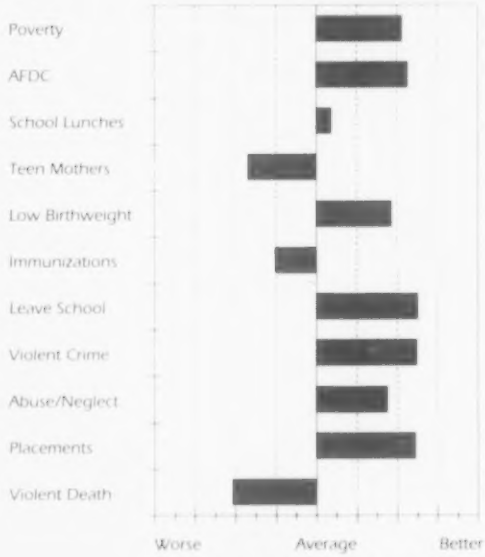
Roseau County is a relatively small-sized county in northern Minnesota. Its 1995 per capita personal income of $19,043 ranked slightly higher than the average of the state, and increased almost 7% from 1994. Its largest industries were durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Services was also the fastest growing industry and increased 14.3% between 1994 to 1995.

Roseau County children were somewhat less likely to be poor than children in the average Minnesota county. The 1993-1995 teen birth rate was higher than average, however. Roseau County improved its immunization rate for two-year-olds between 1992 and 1995 and had very low rates of violent crime and out-of-home placements.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	16,215
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,010
Estimated % children, 1996	30.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,801
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	4.4%
Projected population, 2000	16,950

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Roseau County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	511	10.8%	493	9.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	147	3.1%	153	3.2%	107	2.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	997	29.3%	1,069	32.4%	1,138	29.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		6		9	23.8 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	11	4.8%	4	1.7%	9	3.5%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			137	46.6%	101	35.8%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	12	0.8%	10	0.7%	6	0.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	7.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	16		16		18		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	25		22		23		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		2		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

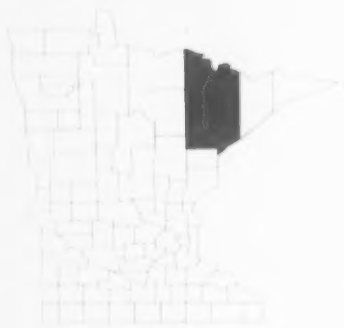
St. Louis

Demographics

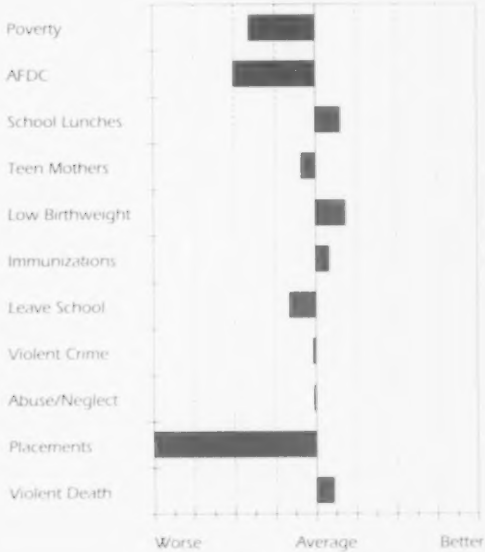
Estimated population, 1996	196,414
Estimated number of children, 1996	47,619
Estimated % children, 1996	24.2%
Estimated number of children, 1991	48,955
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-2.7%
Projected population, 2000	192,540

St. Louis County is located on the North Shore of Lake Superior in northeast Minnesota and is part of the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the fifth largest county in Minnesota. Portions of both the Fond du Lac and Nett Lake Indian Reservations are located in the county. The largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and retail. The service sector of the economy was the fastest growing, increasing 7% between 1994 and 1995. Its per capita personal income of $20,428 reflected a significant increase from the previous year, and ranked seventeenth in the state.

St. Louis County children were more likely to receive AFDC than children in the average county, although the rate declined steadily since 1993. The county had a sharp decline in the number of children in out-of-home placements, although the rate is still much higher than the average Minnesota county. On other indicators of child well-being, children in St. Louis County are close to the average county.



Measuring the Well-Being of Children in St. Louis County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	9,087	*18.7%*	9,679	*19.6%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	7,547	*15.4%*	6,576	*13.5%*	5,511	*11.6%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	9,135	*28.0%*	9,318	*28.7%*	9,057	*27.7%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	69		81		75	*18.8* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	106	*4.8%*	108	*5.1%*	87	*4.4%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			882	*35.4%*	754	*31.4%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	673	*4.1%*	567	*3.5%*	534	*3.3%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	55	*27.5%*	85	*37.0%*	77	*26.5%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	510		458		352		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	1,400		1,484		1,300		17,508	
Children dying violently	13		5		7		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Scott

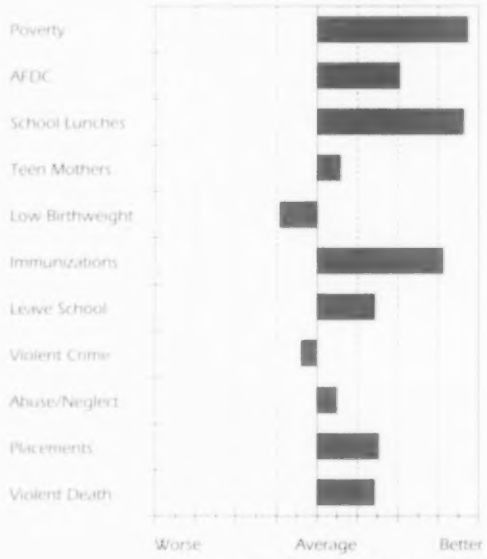
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	72,813
Estimated number of children, 1996	22,469
Estimated % children, 1996	30.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	18,916
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	18.8%
Projected population, 2000	69,770

Scott County comprises the southwest edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area and is the tenth largest county in Minnesota. Prior Lake Indian Reservation is located within the county. Scott County's per capita personal income of $23, 497 ranked seventh in the state. Services, durable goods manufacturing, and construction were the largest industries in Scott County in 1995. The construction industry increased by almost 21% since 1995.

Scott County children were much less likely to be poor than children in the average Minnesota county. The rate of immunized two-year-olds in Scott County improved between 1992 and 1995, moving well above that of the average county. The number of children in out-of-home placements increased sharply in 1996, although the county is still slightly below average in the rate of placements.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Scott County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	854	*4.7%*	1,242	*5.7%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	592	*3.1%*	664	*3.3%*	590	*2.6%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,315	*12.5%*	1,410	*12.5%*	1,550	12.0%	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	19		18		24	*15.3* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	57	*5.0%*	56	*4.7%*	80	*5.8%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			425	*34.0%*	322	*22.3%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	62	*1.3%*	42	*0.9%*	71	*1.3%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	12	*24.0%*	16	*30.0%*	17	*29.8%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	140		131		141		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	101		132		172		17,508	
Children dying violently	3		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Sherburne

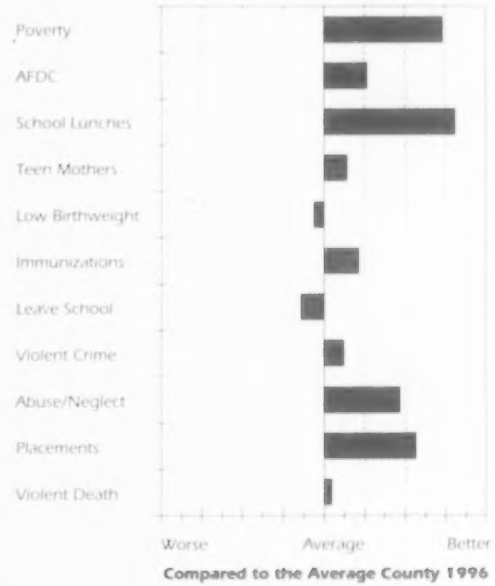
Sherburne County is located in central Minnesota, on the northern edge of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the fourteenth largest county in Minnesota, and had a per capita personal income of $18,449 in 1995, which is average in comparison with the rest of the state. Its largest industries were transportation and public utilities, state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing grew the fastest in 1995, increasing by 36%.

Children in Sherburne County were less likely to be poor than children in the average county. There was a slight increase over time in the percentage of children born at low birth weight as well as a steady increase in the number of children in out-of-home placements.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	55,401
Estimated number of children, 1996	17,592
Estimated % children, 1996	31.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	14,073
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	25.0%
Projected population, 2000	52,650

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sherburne County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,016	7.6%	1,259	7.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	675	4.8%	661	4.3%	841	4.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,363	15.6%	1,588	15.9%	1,607	14.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		18		16	15.4 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	36	4.7%	40	5.1%	45	5.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			336	37.1%	360	29.7%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	119	3.1%	118	2.7%	160	3.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	10.0%	11	39.0%	6	20.7% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	41		52		59		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	63		50		92		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		3		3		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Sibley

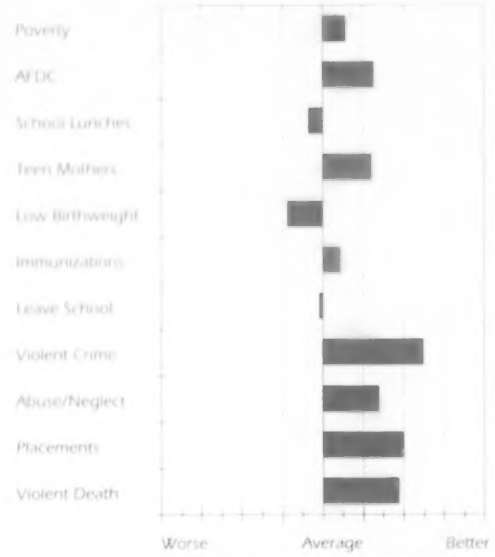
Sibley County is a moderate-sized county located in south central Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $17,520 placed it within the middle third of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1995 were construction, services, and state and local government. Durable goods manufacturing increased 10% from 1994 to 1995.

Children in Sibley County were close to the average Minnesota county for many indicators of child well-being. The county did have a higher-than-average percentage of children born at low birth weight. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect declined significantly from 1993 to 1996.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	14,652
Estimated number of children, 1996	4,104
Estimated % children, 1996	28.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	4,112
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.2%
Projected population, 2000	13,640

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Sibley County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	570	13.7%	589	13.9%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	154	3.8%	212	5.1%	178	4.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	528	22.4%	732	28.3%	908	32.6%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		4		9	13.0 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	9	4.5%	8	5.0%	11	5.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			79	39.9%	65	31.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	26	2.3%	21	1.7%	34	2.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	14.0%	0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	37		70		18		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	25		42		25		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		4		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Stearns

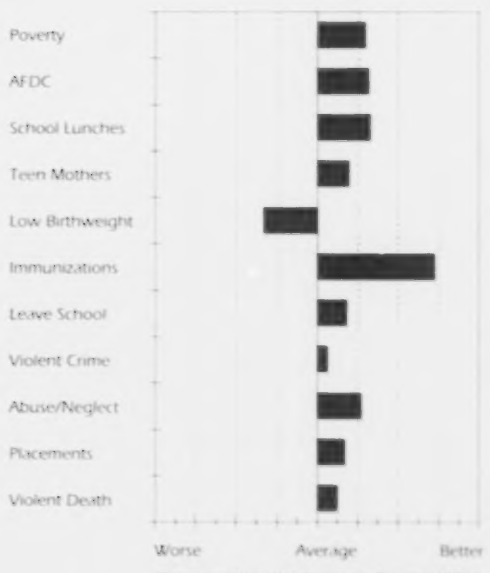
Stearns County is located in central Minnesota and is part of the St. Cloud Metropolitan Statistical Area. It is the seventh largest county in Minnesota. Its largest industries in 1995 were services, retail, and state and local government. Transportation and public utilities was the fastest growing industry reflecting an increase of 9.3% from 1994 to 1995. Stearns County's per capita personal income of $18,871 ranked close to the average for the state.

The immunization rate for two-year-olds in Stearns County was well above that of the average county in 1995. The percent of children born at low birth weight increased since 1993, as did substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. However, the county is still close to average on both of those indicators.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	126,990
Estimated number of children, 1996	35,945
Estimated % children, 1996	28.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	34,204
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	5.1%
Projected population, 2000	123,900

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stearns County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	4,313	12.8%	4,465	12.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,697	5.0%	1,755	5.0%	1,555	4.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	6,862	25.6%	7,037	25.2%	6,726	24.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	28		36		39	14.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	94	5.6%	59	3.7%	99	6.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			567	30.7%	393	23.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	135	1.2%	120	1.0%	252	2.0% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	33	26.2%	31	23.0%	36	23.2% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	106		129		180		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	277		249		379		17,508	
Children dying violently	7		5		5		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Steele

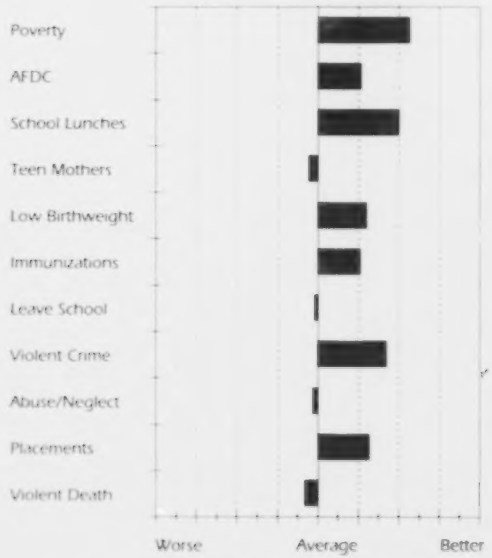
Steele County, in southeast Minnesota, is the twenty-ninth largest county in the state. During the summer months, the population of Steele County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Steele County's per capita personal income of $21,939 was the ninth highest in the state. The largest industries were durable goods manufacturing; services; and finance, insurance, and real estate. Non-durable goods manufacturing increased 15.2% from 1994 to 1995.

Children in Steele County generally did better than children in the average county on most measures of child well-being. The number of children receiving AFDC continued to increase through 1996, although it is still lower than the average county. The number of teens giving birth also increased and the 1993-1995 birth rate was near average.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	31,567
Estimated number of children, 1996	9,002
Estimated % children, 1996	28.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	9,130
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.4%
Projected population, 2000	31,260

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Steele County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	748	8.4%	887	9.5%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	399	4.4%	383	4.1%	429	4.8%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,181	18.3%	1,478	22.2%	1,273	20.5%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		7		14	18.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	18	4.4%	22	5.2%	16	4.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			182	33.9%	155	29.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	54	1.9%	66	2.2%	83	2.7% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	6	37.5%	3	7.0%	3	8.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	100		64		68		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	57		79		77		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		2		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Stevens

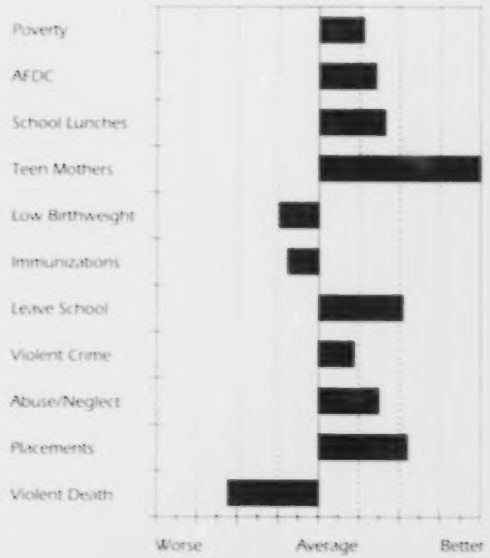
Stevens County is located in west central Minnesota and is the sixteenth smallest county in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and construction. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities, which increased by almost 25% from 1994 to 1995. The per capita personal income of $18, 364 ranked close to average among Minnesota counties.

Stevens County continued to have a very low rate of births to teens. The percentage of children born at low birth weight and the percentage of children not immunized by age two both increased, but were still near the average count for these indicators.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	10,197
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,400
Estimated % children, 1996	23.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,527
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-5.0%
Projected population, 2000	9,890

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Stevens County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	371	*14.6%*	315	*12.5%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	144	*5.7%*	122	*4.9%*	96	*4.0%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	499	*26.1%*	519	*26.3%*	424	*22.4%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	3		0		2	*1.9* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	*2.8%*	3	*3.0%*	5	*5.8%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			35	*31.0%*	42	*35.0%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	1	*0.1%*	5	*0.5%*	7	*0.7%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		2	*18.0%*	1	*16.7%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	5		3		10		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	15		17		13		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Swift

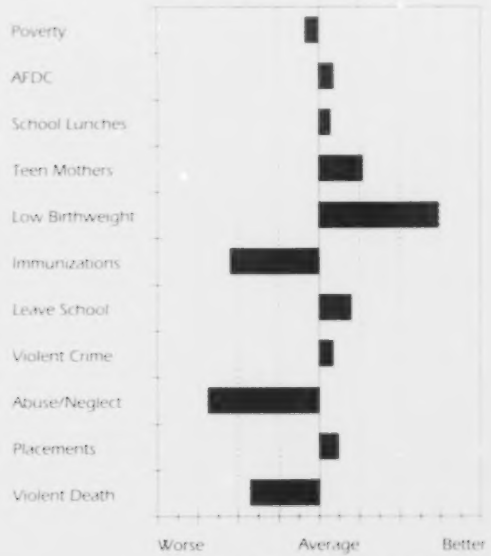
Swift County, located in west central Minnesota, is a moderately small county. The 1995 per capita personal income was $17,640, which ranks slightly lower than average. The largest industries were state and local government, durable goods manufacturing, and services. Durable goods manufacturing increased by 27% from 1994 to 1995.

Swift County significantly improved the number of children fully immunized by age two, although there were still more un-immunized two-year-olds than the average county. The county had fewer children than average born at low birth weight in 1996. The number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect continued to be higher than the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	10,857
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,757
Estimated % children, 1996	25.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,894
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-4.7%
Projected population, 2000	9,360

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Swift County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	499	*17.5%*	473	*16.2%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	209	*7.2%*	198	*6.9%*	174	*6.3%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	755	*34.8%*	769	*36.0%*	570	*29.4%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	1		1		5	*13.4* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	*2.1%*	2	*1.6%*	3	*2.6%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			66	*41.5%*	87	*39.7%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	10	*1.2%*	11	*1.2%*	18	*1.9%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		2	*22.2%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	28		31		36		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	20		25		31		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Todd

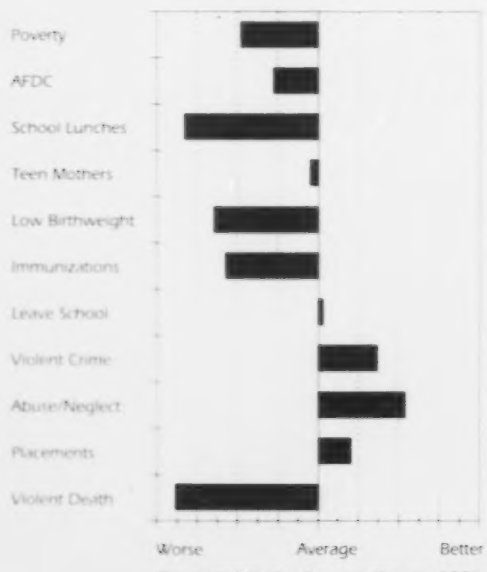
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	24,128
Estimated number of children, 1996	7,273
Estimated % children, 1996	30.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991	7,143
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.8%
Projected population, 2000	22,060

Todd County is a moderate-sized county in the central portion of Minnesota. Its 1995 per capita personal income of $14,333 was the second lowest in Minnesota. The largest industries were non-durable goods manufacturing, state and local government, and services. Durable goods manufacturing was the fastest growing industry, increasing 11.4% between 1994 and 1995.

Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect declined in Todd County, although the number of children in out-of-home placements increased in 1996. The number of families receiving AFDC also continued to increase, possibly due to the fact that, since Todd County is an MFIP demonstration county, recipients remained on the program longer as they returned to the workforce. The county also had higher-than-average rates of unimmunized two-year-olds and children born at low birth weight.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Todd County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,698	23.4%	1,517	20.3%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	544	7.6%	564	7.9%	692	9.5%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,280	47.1%	2,263	44.9%	2,547	48.0%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	13		10		8	18.3 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	20	6.2%	25	8.8%	20	7.1%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			138	39.2%	118	40.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	40	1.6%	38	1.5%	67	2.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		2	10.5% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	43		31		20		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	40		57		73		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		2		4		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Traverse

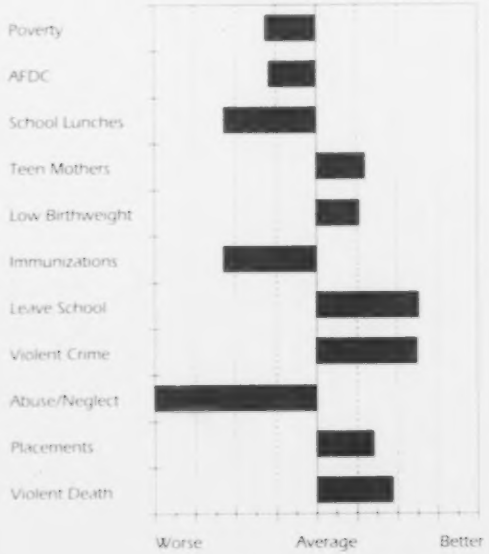
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	4,298
Estimated number of children, 1996	1,118
Estimated % children, 1996	26.0%
Estimated number of children, 1991	1,146
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-2.5%
Projected population, 2000	3,880

Traverse County is located in the west central part of the state on the South Dakota border. It is the smallest county in Minnesota. The county's per capita personal income of $20,734 ranked fifteenth in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and retail. The fastest growing industry was transportation and public utilities which increased 11% between 1994 and 1995.

Contrary to state trends, there continued to be an increase in the percentage of children receiving AFDC and free and reduced-price school lunch. There was also an increase in children not fully immunized by age two and a higher-than-average number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. On other indicators of child well-being, Traverse County children fared better than children in the average county.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Traverse County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	267	22.1%	217	18.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	84	7.3%	85	7.5%	108	9.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	323	38.5%	334	40.0%	318	42.6%	229,159	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	0		3		2	13.0 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	3	5.7%	3	6.7%	2	4.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			7	29.2%	22	40.0%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	0		1	0.3%	1	0.3% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		0	(c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	10		13		18		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	9		15		9		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Wabasha

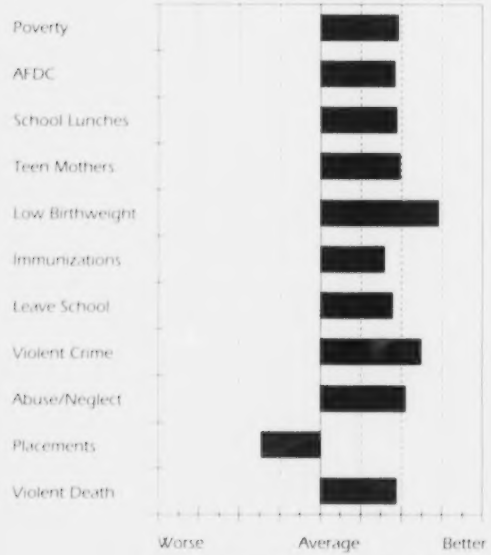
Wabasha County is a mid-sized county located in southeast Minnesota along the Mississippi River. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. Durable goods manufacturing was also the fastest growing industry, increasing at a rate of 13.6% between 1994 and 1995. The county's per capita personal income of $19,611 ranked twenty-seventh in the state.

In Wabasha County, children generally did better than the average county for most indicators of child well-being. There was a significant drop in 1996 in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, but an increase in the number of children in out-of-home placements.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	20,752
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,890
Estimated % children, 1996	28.4%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,782
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	1.9%
Projected population, 2000	20,040

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wabasha County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	582	*10.1%*	629	*10.4%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	269	*4.7%*	232	*4.0%*	180	*3.1%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	898	*19.6%*	861	*20.9%*	916	*21.1%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	6		2		5	*10.1* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	8	*2.8%*	13	*5.4%*	6	*2.7%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			141	*38.2%*	84	*27.3%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	12	*0.6%*	20	*1.0%*	20	*1.0%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	*33.3%*	0		0	(c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	36		46		17		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	51		51		104		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		0		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Wadena

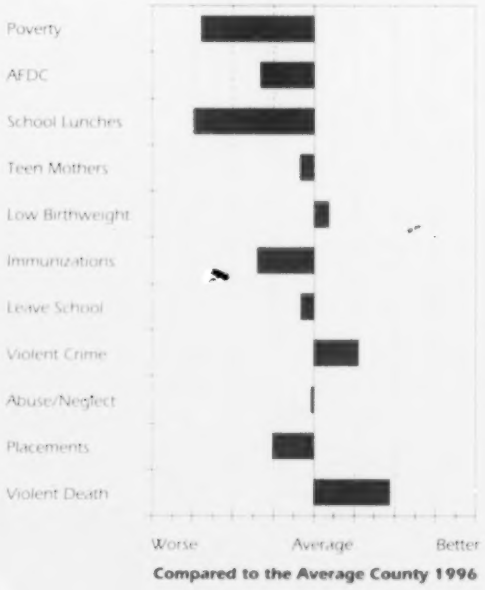
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	13,126
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,643
Estimated % children, 1996	27.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,691
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-1.3%
Projected population, 2000	12,610

Wadena County is a moderately small county in the north central portion of the state. Wadena County's $15,583 per capita personal income ranked the sixth lowest in the state. The largest industries in 1995 were state and local government, services, and durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing segment of the economy was transportation and public utilities, which increased by almost 29% between 1994 and 1995.

The percentage of children receiving AFDC in Wadena County continued to decrease, although the percentage of children poor enough to qualify for subsidized school lunch has remained steady and was quite a bit higher than the average county. Wadena County improved its rate of un-immunized two-year-olds between 1992 and 1995.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wadena County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	899	23.9%	853	22.6%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	411	11.2%	421	11.6%	366	10.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,474	46.6%	1,528	46.8%	1,549	46.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		5		3	18.8 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	6	3.4%	9	5.0%	7	4.7%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			143	52.8%	88	37.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	13	0.9%	29	1.8%	49	3.0% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	21.4%	2	7.0%	1	14.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	89		41		27		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	78		49		59		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		3		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Waseca

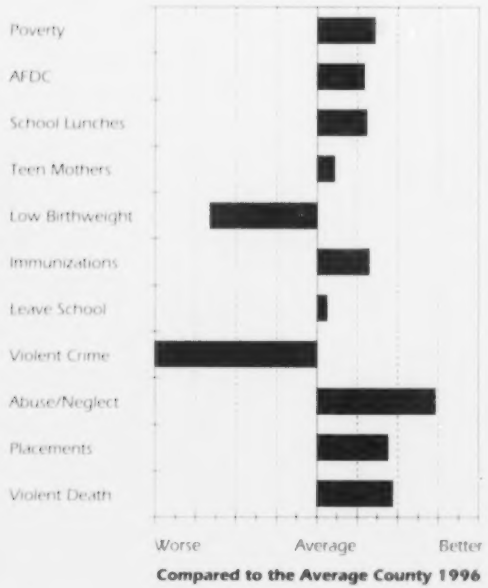
Waseca County is a moderate-sized county located in the southeast portion of Minnesota. The largest industries in 1995 were non-durable goods manufacturing, durable goods manufacturing, and services. The durable goods manufacturing sector was also the fastest growing. The per capita personal income of $18,955 ranked slightly better than average in comparison with the rest of the state.

Substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect dropped significantly in Waseca County from 1991 to 1996, as did the number of children in out-of-home placements. There has been a steady increase in the percent of children born at low birth weight and Waseca ranks above the average county on that indicator. In 1995, there were no adult arrests for violent crime in Waseca, which means that the percentage of children committing violent crimes was 100%. However, the number of children committing violent crimes has been relatively stable over time.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	17,998
Estimated number of children, 1996	5,188
Estimated % children, 1996	28.8%
Estimated number of children, 1991	5,302
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-2.2%
Projected population, 2000	17,600

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Waseca County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	562	*10.6%*	624	*11.7%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	286	*5.4%*	309	*5.9%*	236	*4.5%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	945	*23.4%*	1,081	*26.2%*	1,121	*24.6%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		6		10	*15.9* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	11	*4.6%*	15	*6.4%*	18	*7.2%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			93	*35.1%*	75	*28.3%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	27	*1.5%*	25	*1.3%*	53	*2.4%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	*33.3%*	1	*25.0%*	2	*100.0%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	38		22		6		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	53		42		36		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Washington

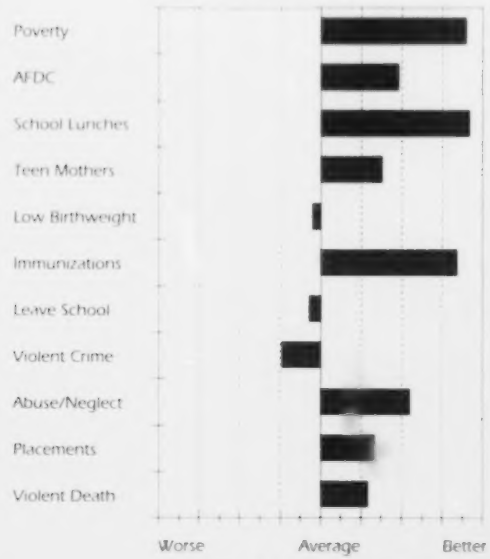
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996 185,074
Estimated number of children, 1996 55,630
Estimated % children, 1996 ..... 30.1%
Estimated number of children, 1991 47,156
% change in number of children, 1991-1996 ..... 18.0%
Projected population, 2000 172,110

Washington County is in the eastern part of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area and borders Wisconsin. Washington County is the sixth largest county in Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $25,388 is the fifth highest in the state. Durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government were the largest industries in 1995. The fastest growing industry was public utilities and transportation, which increased by 15% between 1994 and 1995.

Washington County children fared somewhat better than children in the average county on many indicators of child well-being. Although there was a steady decline in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect, there was an increase in the number of children in out-of-home placement during the same time.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Washington County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	2,722	6.1%	3,293	6.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,856	3.9%	2,010	3.9%	1,621	2.9%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	3,185	11.3%	3,579	11.8%	4,021	11.8%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	45		40		38	11.8 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	104	4.5%	127	5.2%	139	5.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			808	32.7%	558	21.5%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	501	3.9%	372	2.7%	458	2.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	64	29.9%	62	32.0%	65	35.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	219		198		149		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	371		416		463		17,508	
Children dying violently	7		0		4		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Watonwan

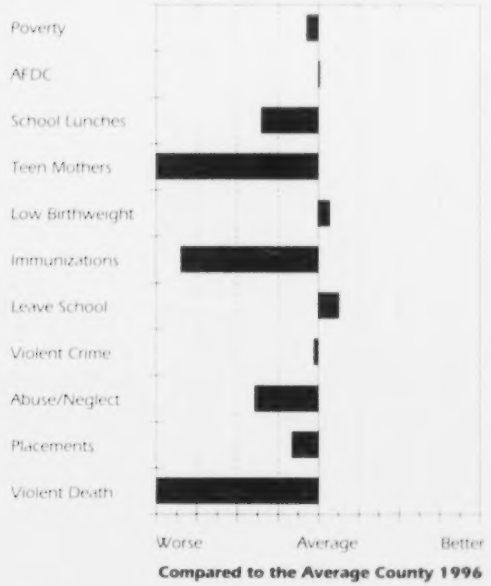
Watonwan County is located in the south central portion of Minnesota, near the Iowa border. The largest industries in 1995 were transportation and public utilities, services, and state and local government. There was a significant increase in the durable goods manufacturing industry between 1994 and 1995. The $17,874 per capita personal income in Watonwan County ranked slightly lower than the average of the state.

Children in Watonwan County fared close to the average county on many indicators. Contrary to the state trend, poverty has increased somewhat in Watonwan County, indicated by increased poverty rate, an increase in AFDC cases, and an increase in school lunch enrollment since 1991. Watonwan County also had a relatively high rate of teen births from 1993 to 1995.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	11,600
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,217
Estimated % children, 1996	27.7%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,546
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-9.3%
Projected population, 2000	11,260

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Watonwan County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	509	15.4%	536	16.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	97	2.7%	249	6.9%	226	7.0%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	727	33.8%	879	40.5%	842	38.1%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	5		12		9	44.6 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	11	6.1%	3	1.7%	8	4.8%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			76	54.7%	82	43.6%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	16	1.6%	26	2.5%	24	2.2% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	3	23.1%	2	40.0%	7	26.9% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	29		43		34		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	37		65		48		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		5		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Wilkin

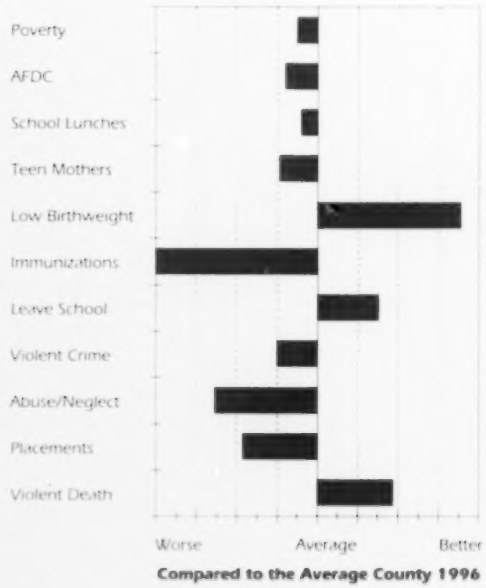
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	7,381
Estimated number of children, 1996	2,057
Estimated % children, 1996	27.9%
Estimated number of children, 1991	2,128
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.4%
Projected population, 2000	6,990

Wilkin County is located in west central Minnesota on the North Dakota border. It is the ninth smallest county in the state. During the summer months, the population of Wilkin County includes migrant farmworkers and their children. Its per capita personal income of $19,431 was ranked slightly higher than average. The largest industry was services, followed by state and local government and transportation and public utilities. The construction sector increased the fastest, increasing by 14.3% between 1994 and 1995.

Wilkin County reduced the number of children receiving AFDC and living in poverty to near the average county's rate. The percentage of children born at low birth weight in Wilkin County fluctuated from year to year, but was extremely low in 1996. Wilkin County continued to have a high rate of children not fully immunized by age two.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wilkin County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	403	*19.1%*	356	*16.7%*			185,224	*14.7%*
Children receiving AFDC	215	*10.1%*	233	*11.0%*	182	*8.8%*	116,774	*9.4%*
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	562	*35.2%*	595	*35.7%*	566	*33.0%*	229,059	*26.7%*
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		3		2	*21.0* (a)	2,019	*31.0* (a)
Children born at low birth weight	5	*5.4%*	11	*10.7%*	2	*2.2%*	3,715	*5.8%*
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			60	*50.8%*	51	*46.4%*		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	8	*1.2%*	14	*1.9%*	10	*1.3%* (c)	15,701	*4.1%*
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		0		4	*36.4%* (c)	2,123	*29.9%*
Children abused and neglected	35		15		26		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	41		44		39		17,508	
Children dying violently	1		1		0		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Winona

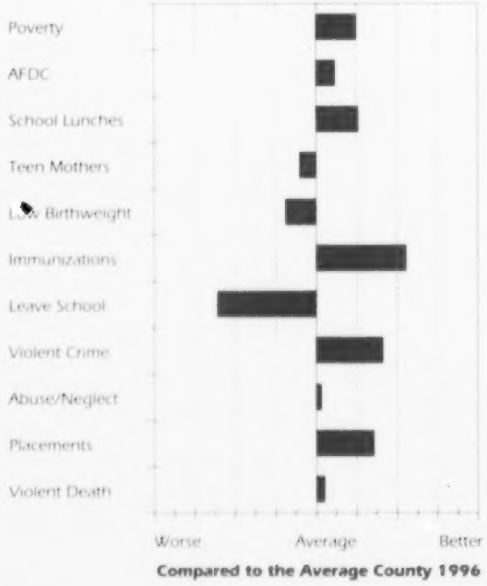
Winona, the eighteenth largest county, is located in the southeastern area of Minnesota, bordering the Mississippi River. The per capita personal income of Winona County was $19,855 in 1995, ranking twenty-second in the state. The largest industries in Winona County were durable goods manufacturing, services, and non-durable goods manufacturing. The fastest growing industry was wholesale trade, which increased almost 22% between 1994 and 1995.

Winona County two-year-olds were much more likely to be up-to-date on immunizations than children in the average Minnesota county. The county had a drop over time in the number of births to teens. The number of children in out-of-home placements rose steadily since 1991, although the 1996 rate was average for the state.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	48,411
Estimated number of children, 1996	11,839
Estimated % children, 1996	24.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	11,910
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-0.6%
Projected population, 2000	48,070

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Winona County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,427	12.0%	1,562	12.8%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	750	6.3%	769	6.4%	723	6.1%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	1,855	23.1%	1,910	24.3%	2,023	25.4%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	21		16		15	19.0 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	38	6.2%	31	5.6%	31	5.6%	3,715	5.8%
Children r[illegible] immunized by age 2 (b)			217	33.9%	159	25.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	114	3.7%	97	3.2%	155	4.9% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	0		1	4.0%	5	8.8% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	69		64		83		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	67		64		95		17,508	
Children dying violently	2		1		2		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Wright

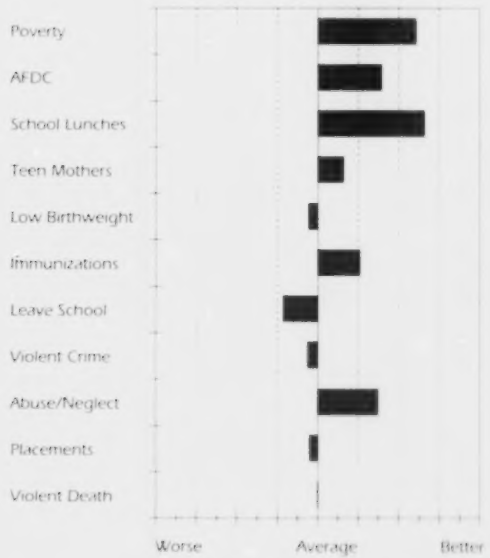
Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	80,757
Estimated number of children, 1996	26,083
Estimated % children, 1996	32.3%
Estimated number of children, 1991	23,230
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	12.3%
Projected population, 2000	76,820

Wright County is located in the western portion of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area. It is the ninth largest county in Minnesota. Its largest industries in 1995 were services, state and local government, and durable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing was also the fastest growing segment of the economy, increasing by 14.5%. Wright County had a per capita personal income of $20,823, which ranked fourteenth in the state.

Wright County children are less likely to be poor than children in the average Minnesota county. The county has low rates of both AFDC use and school lunch enrollment. The county saw a significant improvement in its immunization rate. A continued rise in the number of children in out-of-home placements since 1991 reflected a multiyear trend for this indicator.

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Wright County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	1,858	8.2%	2,323	9.1%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	1,081	4.7%	1,240	5.1%	958	3.7%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	2,591	17.4%	2,826	18.1%	3,015	17.2%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	24		17		35	15.1 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	51	4.2%	69	5.9%	66	5.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			573	40.7%	423	29.1%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	118	1.8%	132	1.8%	279	3.5% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	2	3.0%	22	31.0%	15	28.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	119		79		108		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	244		293		350		17,508	
Children dying violently	4		1		5		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

Yellow Medicine

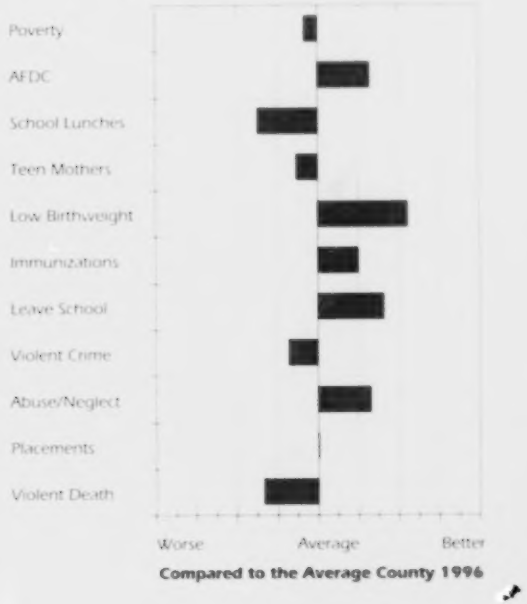
Yellow Medicine County is located on the South Dakota border in the southwestern portion of Minnesota. Its per capita personal income of $18,135 ranks within the middle third of Minnesota counties. The largest industries in 1995 were durable goods manufacturing, services, and state and local government. From 1994 to 1995, the durable goods manufacturing industry increased by 55%, making it also the fastest growing industry.

Yellow Medicine County had a much lower-than-average percentage of low birth weight babies in 1996. There was also a sharp decline in substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect. The county greatly improved its immunization rate between 1993 and 1996. The number of children committing violent crimes increased slightly, although the percent of all violent crimes remained near the average county.

Demographics

Estimated population, 1996	11,559
Estimated number of children, 1996	3,064
Estimated % children, 1996	26.5%
Estimated number of children, 1991	3,180
% change in number of children, 1991-1996	-3.6%
Projected population, 2000	10,520

Measuring the Well-Being of Children in Yellow Medicine County



Compared to the Average County 1996

	1991		1993		1996		1996 State	
Family Economics								
Children living below the poverty line	657	20.5%	525	16.2%			185,224	14.7%
Children receiving AFDC	194	6.1%	206	6.5%	132	4.3%	116,774	9.4%
Children receiving free/reduced price school lunches (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 96-97)	888	37.1%	969	39.4%	915	38.5%	229,059	26.7%
Birth Circumstances								
Children born to teenage mothers	4		4		3	19.5 (a)	2,019	31.0 (a)
Children born at low birth weight	4	3.2%	7	4.8%	4	3.2%	3,715	5.8%
Children not immunized by age 2 (b)			67	41.6%	31	29.2%		
Signs of Trouble								
Children dropping out of school (school years 1991-92, 93-94, 95-96)	10	1.0%	11	0.9%	13	1.1% (c)	15,701	4.1%
Children arrested for violent crime (% of all arrests)	1	12.5%	2	10.0%	4	33.3% (c)	2,123	29.9%
Children abused and neglected	21		43		14		10,200	
Children in out-of-home placements	30		39		39		17,508	
Children dying violently	0		1		1		205	

(a) 1993-1995 rate per 1,000 (b) 1992, 1995 (c) 1995

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Data Notes

Demographic Information. Population estimates are from the U.S. Census Bureau. Population projections are from the Office of the State Demographer.

Data About Children of Color. Data about children of color is collected using many different methods. Parents might identify their race or the race of their children, race may be determined by others based on a visual determination, or a combination of these methods may be used. Furthermore, different categories are used to classify children by race. Some indicators treat "Hispanic" as a separate ethnic designation rather than a race, while others do not.

Accepted names for various racial and ethnic groups are constantly in flux and once again, indicators differ in their terminology. KIDS COUNT has tried to use widely accepted terms that generally match the categories in which most of the data is collected.

Finally, children of color are often undercounted and unmeasured. Families may be mistrustful of providing information to the government. Children of migrant farmworkers may not be adequately represented because they are only in Minnesota part of the year. Data collectors may not be fluent in the parent's language or may determine race for a child incorrectly. Thus, data about children of color in Minnesota should be interpreted with caution.

Children in Poverty is the estimated number of children under 18 whose families have income below the federal poverty line. In 1998, the Census Bureau released 1989 and 1993 estimates for states and counties. These estimates have significant margins of error at the county level, and should be used with caution.

Children Receiving AFDC is the monthly average of all children receiving payments from Aid to Families with Dependent Children between July 1 and June 30 of the selected fiscal years. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The percent of children receiving AFDC is the number of children receiving AFDC divided by the estimated total number of children.

Children Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price School Lunches is the number of children who have been approved to receive these meals in October of each school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. Public and many private schools are represented. Not all eligible children participate in this program. The percent of children eligible is the number of children approved for meals divided by the total school enrollment.

Children Born to Teenage Mothers is the number of infants born to women who were less than age 18 at the time of the child's birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Department of Health, based on information collected from birth certificates. The rate of these births is a combined three-year average in order to obtain large enough numbers in most counties for this rate to be calculated.

Children Born at Low Birth Weight is the number of babies weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth. It is provided by The Center for Health Statistics of the Minnesota Department of Health, based on information collected from birth certificates. The percent of children born at low birth weight is the number of low birth weight children divided by the total number of births.

(continued on page 108)

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Data Notes, continued from page 107

Children Who Were Not Fully Immunized By Age 2 is the number of kindergarten students in the 1996-97 school year who had not been immunized by age two. It is provided through a retrospective survey by the Minnesota Department of Health. The percent of children not fully immunized is the number of un-immunized children divided by the total number of kindergarten students.

Children Dropping Out of School is the number of students who were enrolled in school during the previous school year and were not enrolled by October 1 of the current school year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning. This definition was new as of the 1993-94 school year; previously, a student was counted as "dropping out" if they were not enrolled by the beginning of the next school year. School districts are assigned to the county where their district offices are located. The percent of students dropping out is the number of students dropping out divided by the total enrollment of grades 7-12.

Children Arrested for Violent Crime is the number of children arrested for murder, negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. It is provided by the Criminal Justice Center at Minnesota Planning from statistics collected by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. The percent of children arrested for violent crime is the number of children arrested divided by the total number of arrests for violent crime.

Children Abused and Neglected is the number of children for whom a report of child abuse or neglect was substantiated by a county child protection worker. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services from statistics collected by counties. Substantiated abuse means that the local social service agency has conducted an assessment in response to a report and has found that maltreatment occurred.

Children in Out-of-Home Placements is the unduplicated number of children who were placed in foster care, group homes, emergency shelter or residential treatment facilities during the year. It is provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services from statistics collected by counties.

Children Dying Violently is the number of children dying from murder, suicide and other injuries such as motor vehicle crashes, drowning and falls. It is provided by the Center for Health Statistics at the Minnesota Department of Health using information on death certificates.

About the Graphs for Counties

The graphs allow comparison of multiple indicators within a county. At a glance, you are also able to see how a county compares to the state average for each indicator. The "Minnesota Average" is the mean of all the county data points. Each thinner line represents one standard deviation above or below the average.

Comparing distributions that are expressed in different units is accomplished by using standard scores also known as *z*-scores. Standard scores are generated for each indicator by computing the difference between each data point and the mean (the sum of all county values divided by the number of counties) and dividing it by the standard deviation (a measure of the degree to which the scores cluster around the mean.) The resulting *z*-score has a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of one.

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Other Resources

CDF-Minnesota Publications

KIDS COUNT: (to order, call 612-870-3671 or 1-888-870-1402)

Information is Power! A Child Advocate's Guide to Fear-Free Fact Finding. 1998. $5. This guide provides a complete overview to finding and using data about children in Minnesota.
Minnesota Children in Out-of-Home Placement. Winter 1998. $3.
Minnesota Children and Information Technology: Challenges for Children's Advocates. Summer 1997. $3.
Community Efforts to Help Children: A Review of Collaborations in Minnesota. Spring, 1997. $3.

with Partnership for Minnesota's Future (to order, call 612-227-6121)

Federal Budget Update: Trends. September 1997
Federal Budget Update: The Taxpayer Relief and Balanced Budget Acts of 1997
Basic Facts About the Federal Budget
How the State's Budget is Determined
How the State Spends its Dollars
Minnesota's Fiscal Future: Re-Examining the "Structural Deficit"

with Congregations Concerned for Children, Child Advocacy Network: (to order, call 870-3670 or 1-888-870-1402)

Recognizing and Celebrating Children: Congregational Resources, volumes 1 and 2.

On-Line Resources

Minnesota KIDS COUNT 1998 Data Book: *http://www.cyfc.umn.edu/kidscount98*

Bureau of the Census: *http://www.census.us*

Children's Defense Fund-Washington, DC: *http://www.tmn.com/cdf/index.html*

Children, Youth and Family Consortium Electronic Clearinghouse: *http://www.fsci.umn.edu/cyfc/cyfc.thml*

Minnesota Planning Children's Report Card and other data: *http:www.mnplan.state.mn.us*

Minnesota Extension Service: *http://www.mes.umn.edu*

Minnesota Legislature: *http://www.leg.state.mn.us*

Northstar: Minnesota Govt. Infomation & Services: *http://www.state.mn.us/govtoffice/index.html*

National Center for Health Statistics: *http://www.cdc.gov/scientific.html*

Urban Institute: *http://newferalsim.urban.org*

Welfare Information Network: *http://www.welfareinfo.org*

Handsnet: *http://www.igc.org/handsnet/*

Children Now: *http://www.childrennow.org*

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Endnotes: Sources for Databook Information

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University of Pittsburgh, Office of Child Development. *Special Report: School Dropouts*, 1986.
Minnesota Department of Children, Families, and Learning.
Hennepin County's Hope for Kids Project: *Report for the 1996-1997 School Year*.
The Truancy Work Committee of Hennepin County. *Chronic Absenteeism: A Growing Problem*, August, 1993.

Juveniles Arrested for Violent Crimes
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National Child Abuse Coalition. *Facts About Child Abuse*, February 4, 1997.
Child Welfare League of America. *Children '97: Facts & Figures*, April 1, 1997.

Out-of-Home Placement
Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Children Dying Violently
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Minnesota Kids: A Closer Look

Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota, 550 Rice Street, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103; 612/227-6121

Congregations Concerned for Children-Child Advocacy Network, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition,
122 West Franklin Ave., Suite 315, Minneapolis, MN 55404; 612/870-3670